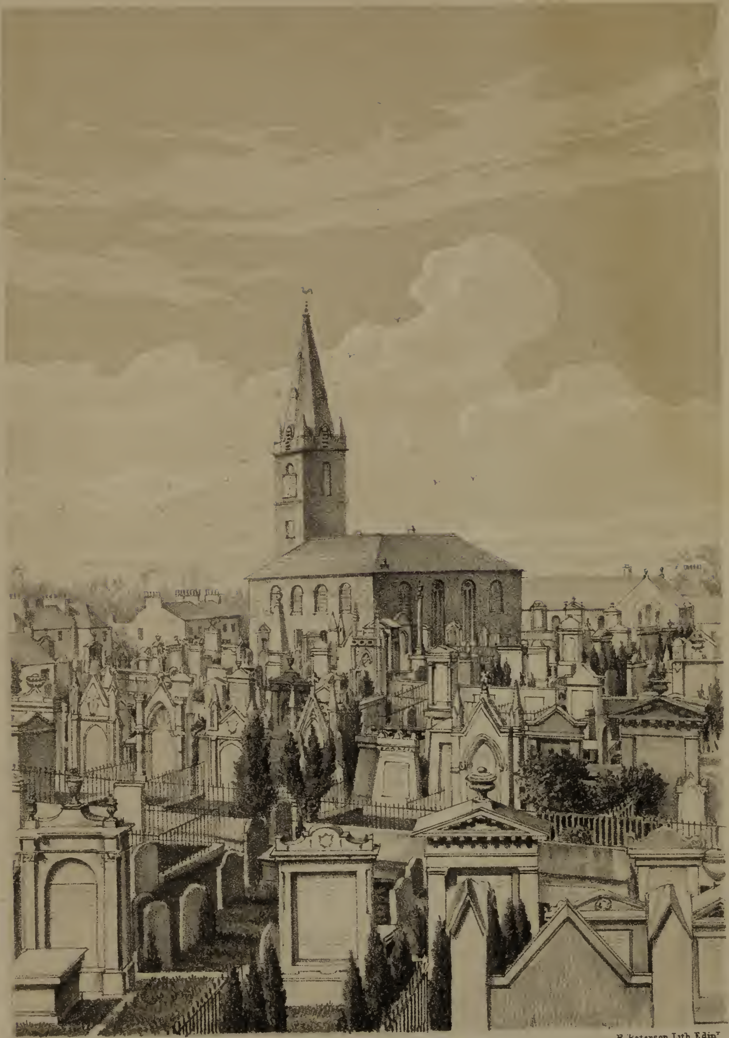


(James Rae Photo Dumfries)

R. Paterson. Lith. Edinr

ST MICHAEL'S CHURCHYARD AND CHURCH.

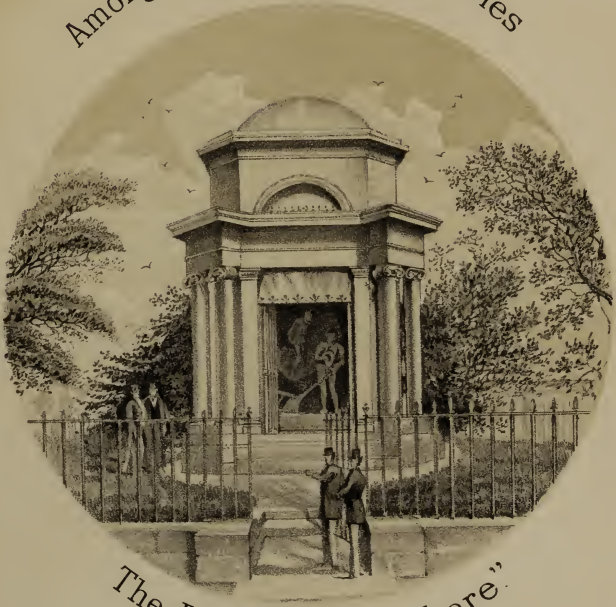
(South east view from elevated position)

MEMORIALS OF ST. MICHAEL'S
THE OLD PARISH CHURCHYARD OF DUMFRIES.

by

WILLIAM M'DOWALL.

Among "thy Sepulchres Dumfries



The Poet's Tomb is there".

EDINBURGH,
ADAM & CHARLES BLACK,
1876.

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MEMORIALS OF ST. MICHAEL'S,

THE

Old Parish Churchyard of Dumfries.

BY

WILLIAM M'DOWALL,

AUTHOR OF THE "HISTORY OF THE BURGH OF DUMFRIES, WITH
NOTICES OF NITHSDALE, ANNANDALE, AND THE WESTERN
BORDER," "BURNS IN DUMFRIESSHIRE," ETC.

EDINBURGH:
ADAM AND CHARLES BLACK.
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PREFACE.

THIS volume of "Memorials" is essentially a local work, intended chiefly for persons belonging to the district or in some way associated with it. The author hopes that it will be found worthy of their perusal; and to many of them it will no doubt possess a mournful interest, relating as it does to friends near and dear who lie sleeping in St. Michael's, waiting the dawn of the resurrection day. In recalling the names of "the loved and lost"—not "lost," properly speaking, but "gone before"—he has endeavoured to do so in a reverential spirit; and he trusts that no word has been introduced that is fitted to give pain to any one, or that is out of keeping with the general character and objects of the publication.

Nearly all the stones in the Churchyard are brought under notice; and should it be objected by any one that the Memorials are too comprehensive, and that it would have been better if the book had been made less general and more select, the author has only to plead that in proceeding with his task he saw on every side such a difficulty in knowing when and where to draw an exclusive line, that he came to the conclusion that he had better run the risk of making the work too elaborate rather than incompletely choice. Besides, names that may appear of little note to strangers may be precious to some humble household as having belonged to those who, in happier days for the survivors, were its chief prop or pride. All burial grounds are sacred, but as a rule each bereaved mourner counts that spot the dearest and most hallowed of all which caskets the rifled "gems" of his own "scented circle:" and to the "Hic jacet" of many graves, half-neglected or obscure, that are noticed in this volume, the words may truthfully be added, "Somebody's darling slumbers here."

While a serious tone has generally been maintained, the author has not thought fit to manifest a melancholy or gloom which he did not really feel. Anything approaching to levity would have been out of place in these memorials of the dead; but even as a walk through a cemetery may legitimately call up many thoughts that are not sad, so, much that is cheerful, or which at all events was intended to be so, has been introduced, wanting which the book would have been monotonous and dull.

Undoubtedly St. Michael's Churchyard is in many respects unique: it is very often spoken of as without a parallel anywhere; and this much at all events may safely be said, that few provincial burial-places throughout the United Kingdom can compete with it in antiquity or extent, and none equals it in point of general interest. In one respect it stands alone, presenting an attraction with which no other cemetery throughout the world can vie in possessing the dust of Robert Burns, and the noble Mausoleum raised over it by the nation as a tardy tribute to his genius. The entire acreage of the Churchyard has thus acquired a special sacredness over and above that which attaches to all places of sepulture. Many references to the poet are scattered here and there in these pages, besides what is said about his own double-burial and tomb; which portions of the work may help to render it not unacceptable to general readers. The Martyrs' Monuments also, which receive a due share of attention, possess an undying interest, not only to all our countrymen, but to the lovers of freedom and the admirers of heroism in every land.

Whenever the persons commented upon figured in history, or were connected with important events, local or national, a brief biography or descriptive sketch has been given, according as the case seemed to require. To the Town Councillors and the Trades, with the Provosts, Bailies, Conveners, and Deacons, by whom they were officered, considerable prominence has been given when the names of such, appearing on the gravestones, supplied a fitting text; those who bore rule in the Burgh or Parish in spiritual things, and those who ministered to the bodily health, or looked after the legal business of the lieges, receiving similar treatment.

With scarcely an exception, the Latin epitaphs which occur have been done into English by Dr. James Cranstoun, Rector of the Dumfries Academy; the rendering in each case is worthy of the accomplished translator of the Elegiae Triad, Catullus, Tibullus, and Propertius; and the author considers himself fortunate in having obtained the freewill services of such a scholar as Dr. Cranstoun in producing these translations, which it is believed will be looked upon as a most valuable feature of the "Memorials."

In prosecuting his task the author has received much assistance from Mr. Thomas Watson, monumental mason, who knows the whole ground; also some acceptable information from Mr. William Flint, sculptor; and some genealogical hints from Mr. James Campbell Gracie. The Minute-book of the Parish Heritors was readily placed at the disposal of the author by their clerk, Mr. James H. M'Gowan; as were the Session Records by the Session Clerk, Mr. M'Quhae. The author has to acknowledge also the kind attention paid to him by Mr. John Tait, Sexton and Beadle, and Mrs. Tait, by which his labours were much facilitated; and finally, he has to express his indebtedness to Mr. James Rae, photographic artist, Stonewall Place, Queen Street, for an excellent picture, which as correctly lithographed constitutes the frontispiece of the volume.

KINGHOLMBANK. DUMFRIES,
October, 1876.

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Memorials of St. Michael's.

CHAPTER I.

WITHIN the Burgh of Dumfries there are now four places of burial: St. Michael's Churchyard, St. Mary's Churchyard, Holy Cross R. C. Cemetery, and the Craig's Road Cemetery, the last-named of which received its first pale tenants so recently as March, 1874. St. Michael's burial-ground is very old, as venerable for age nearly as the town itself. The ashes of the early British patriarchs who, some time prior to the year 1000, originated the capital of Nithsdale may not have been laid in this primitive necropolis, but we know that the ground had begun to receive inhabitants of its own during the days of Malcolm Canmore; and that before William the Lion bore rule, it was known by its present name in a Latinised form, "Cemeterium Sancti Michaelis." About the year 1160 the churchyard was the scene of a fatal brawl between two burgesses, which formed the ground-work of a criminal case that was tried by the King's Bailies and a jury in the Castle of Dumfries. It may be fairly assumed, therefore, that at least eight centuries have been added to the illimitable past since first the "maker of the dead man's bed" plied spade and mattock in St. Michael's Cemetery. During the greater portion of that period it was the only place of sepulture within the Burgh. For about two hundred and fifty years before the Reformation a small burial-place attached to the Greyfriars' Monastery, founded in or about 1274, received its quota of mortality; by the opening of St. Mary's burial-ground in 1838, and that of Holy Cross in 1852, new territories were borrowed from the living for the dead; not a few who die in the town are borne away annually to occupy narrow houses elsewhere; but on the other hand, numerous

A

additions to the dreamless sleepers in St. Michael's come from the surrounding district; and making all due deductions, we think that, from first to last, its disanimated population cannot number less than eighty thousand men, women, and children.

They comprise a multitude of humble folks, who lived and died unnoticed and unknown, some who made a great figure in their day and generation, many whose memory is hoarded by surviving friends with "miser care," a few whose dust is peculiarly dear to all worshippers of true heroism, and one whose fame fills the world, making his mortal abode a shrine to which pilgrims from every land repair:

> "All ask the cottage of his birth,
> Gaze on the scenes he loved and sung,
> And gather feelings not of earth
> His fields and streams among.
> They linger by the Doon's low trees,
> And pastoral Nith, and wooded Ayr,
> And round thy sepulchres, Dumfries—
> The Poet's tomb is there."

The older portion of the churchyard is nearly three acres in extent, and, to mitigate the evils of overcrowding, a considerable addition was made to it fully twenty years ago. So opulent are the grounds with memorial structures that they seem at certain points to cause an "embarrassment of riches," as they almost jostle each other for room. No other provincial burial-place in the United Kingdom, we believe, equals it in this respect. Probably the proud Mausoleum reared over the ashes of Robert Burns in 1815 helped to stimulate the Dumfriesian aspirations for graveyard masonry with its fame, however narrow or transient; but long before this more than regal monument arose, numerous ambitious tombstones, challenging attention, and bearing testimony to buried virtue, and to the liberality, if not always to the good taste, of sorrowing friends, gave a florid aspect to the field. Precisely a hundred years ago, Pennant saw in the churchyard "several monuments in form of pyramids, very ornamental." Hundreds of a homelier kind intermix, bearing names "spelt by the unlettered muse," some of them strewn with texts that "teach the rustic moralist to die," and claiming with success at times the tribute of a tear from the wayfaring "passengers," who are supposed to be addressed by lip and tongue that lie motionless and mute.

Even travellers from other lands, bent on visiting the Poet's Mausoleum or the Nithsdale Martyrs' grave-stones, may find much more to interest them than they anticipated, for, apart altogether from these crowning attractions, the "Auld Kirkyard" of Dumfries has many other objects worthy of notice, though of course these appeal with a stronger force to natives of the district than to strangers from a distance. The very number of the slabs, cenotaphs, pyramids, tables, and obelisks—three thousand or more—which make up this forest of stone is striking, and its general aspect, though less "tidy" than is desirable, and though irregular in the extreme, is exceedingly picturesque; and when its details are examined with a sympathetic eye many of them will be found worthy of the survey, yielding, besides those moral lessons with which all burial-places are fraught, some curious reminiscences of past times; some biographical outlines, brief yet comprehensive, of men who in life soared above their fellows, though here they share the common lot of all; men famous for cunning of hand, strength of head, or generosity of heart; burghal syndics of "credit and renown," who in a higher sense than modern magistrates ruled over the little municipal world, which yet managed to survive their loss; characters who earned more than provincial repute, or who were in some way or other closely associated with incidents of historical importance. Unfortunately the record is now utterly blank as regards the first six centuries to which its nominal age extends. The graveyard is in the condition of a valuable old manuscript whose most ancient leaves have been torn out, or turned into a *tabula rasa*. Of all the many generations who found their last earthly resting place in St. Michael's prior to 1620 there is no visible trace. Regarding them it may be emphatically said,

"Their memory and their name are gone,
Alike unknowing and unknown;"

though it is more than probable that the lower strata of the ground contain the bony relics or stone memorials of men who lived in pre-Reformation times, and who, it may be, had joined the ranks of Bruce when he struck the first blow for freedom in the Greyfriars' Monastery, or had raised the slogan of "A-Loreburn" at Sark or Pinkie, or taken part in many a cattle-lifting raid or patriotic foray across the Western Border. Plenty of memorials remain, however, to court attention; some of which let us proceed to point out without further delay.

ALONG THE WESTERN WALL.

Entering by the huge iron gateway, through which have passed such multitudes of both quick and dead, we glide with reverent step southward, in the line of the grey old wall which forms the western boundary of the grounds, and which is battlemented, as it were, with about a dozen monuments. Adjoining the gate are two stones raised to commemorate some members of a family called Baxter. The word is in old Scotch equivalent to "baker," and the likelihood is that the first Baxters took their surname from the circumstance that they were bread-makers by trade. The first stone commemorates Richard Baxter, died 8th March 1786, aged 55; and his spouse, Isabella Thomson. On the second stone there is a longer record, as follows: James Baxter, farmer, Milldamhead, died 19th November 1829, aged 72; Catherine Johnston, his wife; David Baxter, their son, baker by occupation as well as name, died 21st October 1824, aged 29; Joseph, another son, died 9th April, 1848, aged 47; a daughter, Catherine, died 6th December 1851, aged 47; John, another son, died 5th March 1849, aged 60; Jean Milligan, his spouse; and their daughter Catherine. Both of the monuments consist of flat slabs resting upon short pillars, in the altar form generally known as table tombstones, a class that were long common but are now out of use.

The third stone we arrive at, which is of the same altar shape, bears upon it the following inscription: "Here lyes

John Patersone, merchant, late Bailie of Dumfries, who dyed the 17 of January, 1722, aged 65 years." If monumental magnificence were the true gauge of worth we ought to find here an imposing structure, as beneath the stone sleeps the dust of a philanthropist to whom the town is greatly indebted for its high educational status. By his liberality he did more than any one to make the Dumfries Academy. Before his time the provision for fostering the higher branches was very inadequate : it was no longer so when the fund which he bequeathed for its encouragement became an ever-flowing fount for the sustenance of masters commissioned to "teach children in ane free schooll the Latin Rudiments and grammar, rhetorick, classick authors, and Greek New Testament." Towards this end Bailie Paterson left eight thousand merks ; and in order to give a similar stimulus to more generally useful, though less scholarly branches, he left seven thousand merks for teaching the "arts of writing, arithmetic, book-keeping, and navigation" to the children of burgesses—the pupils always to include eight children of decayed merchants, who were to be specially privileged on account of their parents' poverty. These sums, amounting to £835 6s 8d sterling, were secured on landed property, the Dumfries Town Council acting as administrators of the trust. Untrophied though the Paterson tombstone is, it is honoured by bearing upon it the escutcheon of a good man's name, which ought never to be mentioned in the Burgh save with respect and gratitude.

A stone raised near by, in memory of a youthful son of Bailie Paterson, has within the last few years been subjected to ignominious treatment. Thrown down upon its face, its feet, instead of supporting it, laid lumberingly upon it, the stone ought, for the father's sake, if not for the son's, to be placed in its right position, forthwith to reveal its pathetic inscription, which runs thus :

"When parents, friends, and neighbours hoped to see
This early bud of learning, piety,
And temper good, produce some fruit,
Behold Death plucks the plant up by the root."

Proceeding still in the same direction, we reach several structures which must at an early period have been among the most imposing in the whole yard, but looking upon them now we see

> "Sepulchral columns wrestle but in vain
> With all-subduing Time: his cankering hand
> With calm deliberate malice wasteth them.
> Worn on the edge of days, the brass consumes,
> The busto moulders, and the deep-cut marble,
> Unsteady to the steel, gives up its charge."

They still bear traces of their pristine magnificence, and while rich in an artistic sense they are still more replete with historical memories. The inscriptions, some of them half-erased, furnish texts from which the old annals of the town might be expounded for two centuries or more. Here is the monument of the Corsanes—a family of municipal patricians; near by rises the renovated monument of the Irvings, who long occupied a similar position; further on a little stands the less ambitious tombstone of the Crosbies, several of whom wielded civic rule in troublous times; and when the circle is slightly extended, it takes in such names as Gilchrist, Bell, Johnstone, and Dickson—all noted burgh magnates in their day.

The Corsane monument has suffered terribly from the hand of Time. For several centuries "a most influential family, the Corsanes," says the continuator of "Nisbet's Heraldry," "have it handed down from age to age that the first of their ancestors in Scotland was an Italian gentleman of the Corsini family, who came into this realm with an abbot of Newabbey or *Dulce Cor* about the year 1280;" "though," says another author, "it is right we should state that frequently in old writs the name appears with the prefix 'A' or 'Ap,' indicating a British or Celtic origin." The Corsanes were designated of Glen till, in the reign of James IV., the barony so called passed with Marion, daughter of Sir Robert Acorsane, to her husband, Sir Robert Gordon, who thereupon styled himself of Glen, but afterwards of Lochinvar, on the death of his elder brother, who fell at Flodden. From Gordon of Lochinvar and his wife Marion sprang the barons of that ilk and the Lords of Kenmure. "Sir John Corsane, an early cadet and next heir male of Glen, settled at Dumfries, where he increased in riches and honour, and had a lineal succession of heirs male for eighteen generations; and that they were all of the name John has been constantly asserted by that family. That there were so many generations of them appears as well by other vouchers as by an excellent inscription on the funeral monument of John Corsane, Provost of Dumfries in the reign of King James VI., who was the thirteenth in order descended from the said Sir John Corsane inclusive, in a direct masculine course of succession." This Provost Corsane was also representative of the Burgh in the Parliament that passed the notorious Prelatic decrees known as the "Five Articles of Perth." He espoused the daughter of the seventh Lord Maxwell (slain in the great clan battle of Dryfe Sands, and buried in Lincluden Abbey), by whom he had several children, one of whom was wedded to Stephen Laurie of Maxwelton, and had for daughter the celebrated lyrical heroine, "Bonnie Annie Laurie."

The anonymous continuator of Nisbet (whose work we have twice quoted from above) makes the following remarkable statements with reference to Provost Corsane: "Having in his younger years executed the inferior offices of the magistracy in Dumfries, he was Provost of the said Burgh forty-five years, died when he was aged seventy-five years and a half, in *anno* 1629, and was buried with eleven of his grandfathers, as appears by the said funeral monument erected to his memory that same year by Mr John Corsane, advocate, his son and heir; upon which, with his coat of arms, are many excellent inscriptions in commemoration of his learning, justice, and other good qualifications." Doubtless this distinguished magnate often bore magisterial rule over the Burgh, but that he occupied the civic chair forty-five years is simply incredible; the list of Dumfries Provosts still extant shews that various other gentlemen acted as chief magistrate during the fanciful forty-five years of office assigned to Mr Corsane. A misinterpretation of one of the inscriptions mentioned by the writer has evidently led to the mistake. Whatever "excellent inscriptions" may have been engraved upon the monument at first, only one is now traceable, besides the following intimation :—

"In memoriam viri optimi hujus ur-
bis Consulis Joannis Corsane filius
Hoc monumentum extruxit
Qui obiit. 7 Maii 1629."

In memory of the most illustrious man, John Corsane, Provost of this town, his son has raised this monument. He died 7 May 1629.

In vain we try to decipher the lines by which filial love sought to set forth the honours heaped upon the head of the illustrious deceased. So corroded are they that only a word here and there reveals itself or can be resuscitated by any amount of scrutiny or labour; little mysterious ridges, that yield up scarcely any meaning, being nearly all that remain of the sculptor's handiwork. One of three epitaphs given by Nisbet's colleague is in the following terms :

"Ter tria fatales et bis tria lustra sorores.
Dimidiumque ævo contribuere tuo.
Ter tria civiles humerum circumdare fasces
Lustra, dedit sophiæ gratia digna tuæ.
Ter tribus ac binis, tandem prognatus eodem
Et lare, Corsanis contumularis avis."

The lines may be thus translated :

The fateful sisters assigned thrice three and twice three lustres and a half [year] to thy lifetime [*i.e.*, seventy-five and a half years]. Regard due to thy wisdom caused thy shoulders to wear the badges of civic authority for thrice three lustres [forty-five years]. Sprung at length from thrice three and two progenitors of Corsane, thou also art buried with them in the same place.

These words only warrant the conclusion that the deceased was a councillor, bailie, and chief magistrate for "thrice three lustres," and not perched at the top of the municipal tree for such a protracted period, to the exclusion of the Cunninghams, Kirkpatricks, and Irvings, who we know occupied that coveted altitude alternately with himself. We feel pleasure in stating that the structure was carefully repaired last autumn by Mr. William Flint, sculptor, Dumfries, at the instance of the proprietors. During the process the inscription was brought into full view by the temporary withdrawal of a headstone which stood before it; but even then the injured epitaph refused to yield up its secret; though it became sufficiently clear that the words were not identical with those just quoted, as we fancied they might have been, or with either of the other two inscriptions in honour of "Joannes Corsanus" that are given by Nisbet's continuator. One of these is in the following terms:

"Fascibus in nostra urbe, senex, reliquoque juventa
Functus honore, sub hoc clausus atro tumulo."

Which may be thus translated:

The old man having in our town discharged the highest official duties and enjoyed the other honours* in his youth, lies under this gloomy tomb.

A versified form might be given to the couplet, thus:

Consul in age, all other honours won;
The veteran lies beneath this gloomy stone.

The other incription is as follows:

"Anagramma, An sanus, Corsanus?"

"Sanus et in summa fueras, Corsane, juventa,
Sanus et in summo, cor. fueras senio.
Corde tuo sano, præeras dum sive juventa,
Seu senio, res hæc publica sana stetit."

The ingenious play upon the name of the deceased here indulged in will be perceived by ordinary readers from the subjoined rendering of this curious epitaph:

Sane thou hadst been in thy youth, *Corsane;*
Sane too thou'dst been in ripe age, O heart! (*Cor*)
Heart (*Cor*) *sane* as well in youth as in age;
Sane† was the Burgh during thy reign.

Fronting the ruined structure stands a table tombstone in memory of Robert Corsane of Meikleknox, died 17th of February, 1759, aged 61; his wife, Agnes M'Gowne, and Janet, their daughter, the latter being designated "as relict of the deceased David M'Culloch, Esq. of Ardwall, who died here the 16th March, 1824, aged 84 years." When Burns was about to make a brief tour through Galloway in June, 1794, he trysted Mr M'Culloch to accompany him; and it will be remembered by all who are familiar with the poet's biography that when, later in the same year, during his darkest days, sundry silly-minded gentlefolks were for giving him the cut direct in High Street, Dumfries, the Laird of Ardwall administered a practical rebuke to them by greeting the bard with the utmost cordiality, and accompanying him to his own house. The Ardwall family is now represented by a public-spirited gentleman, grandson of Burns's friend, Mr Walter M'Culloch.

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* Those of bailie and councillor.

† Flourishing

We pass on to a spot where stood the torso of a cenotaph, raised, we believe, in honour of one of the Edgars of Elshieshields. It very much resembled the monument just described, only that it was more dilapidated; and we wish it could be added that it had received similar good treatment in its old age. It required the trowel of repair, but owing to an unfortunate misunderstanding respecting it between the curators of the ground and the owner or claimant of the property, the hammer of destruction was applied to it in September last; and by its removal the Western Wall lost one of its familiar features. It is gratifying for us to be able to add that some months afterwards the relics of the relic, so far as they could be recovered, were built up anew near the original site.* The lintel of the monument bore the fragment of an inscription as follows:

"Cenotaphica hac . . . . . illius gener et
Gentilis Georgius . . . . . rygeus impensa
Propria pie parentavit.
Vixit Annos 67.
Obiit Novembris 1632."

The epitaph indicates that the son-in-law and kinsman has discharged his filial obligation to the deceased by the erection of this cenotaph.

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* The papers relating to the property go to prove the following facts regarding it: (1) That John Irving, eldest lawful son and heir of Doctor John Irving of Neworchyard, in consideration of a sum of money paid to him by George Kerr, late merchant in Dumfries, disposed to him, on 24th July 1774, "the tomb, tombstones, and burial places," belonging to the said John Irving, "lying in St. Michael's churchyeard of Drumfries, and which formerly belonged to Elizabeth Johnstone, daughter of Elshiesheels," his grandmother; (2) that Alexander Kerr, watchmaker, son of George Kerr, by a deed dated 1st November 1793, disponed to John Taylor, weaver, the above burial-ground and tombstones, "bounded on the south by Irving of Gribton, on the west by the street, on the north by Mr. Corson of Meiklenox, and on the east by ———." Mr. John Barr, baker, Dumfries, who kindly favoured us with a glance at the documents, is the representative of the deceased John Taylor.

According to an absurd tradition, the two last-mentioned monuments and the one next come to, that of the Irving family, were sorely maltreated by Cromwell on his return from serving Carlaverock Castle in the same savage style; but the Protector did not here belie his title by acting in any such destructive way to either the tombstones or the fortress, the siege of the latter, though popularly attributed to him, having been carried on by the Covenanters under Lieutenant-Colonel Home. To the slow sapping process of natural decay the mutilation of these monuments was, we believe, solely due. The Irving one, like its neighbours, was a wreck till about forty years since, when it was tastefully repaired; during the interval its lettering has been repeatedly renewed by Mr. Thomas Watson, monumental mason (many traces of whose skilful handicraft are visible in other portions of the yard), at the instance of Mr Wellwood Maxwell of Munches, whose property it is. At present the tomb is in beautiful condition having a strong massive aspect with all its antique characteristics carefully retained. It consists of a square central block and wings, the latter pedimented and pillared with arched panels, the whole surmounted by a rich entablature.

Below the moulding of the middle piece runs the general inscription :—" Insignum Irvingorum Exegesis":

"Ilicis en instar vivus virtute virebam,
Nunc vireo cœlo providus ante solo."

A curve underneath is formed by these words, "Memento homo quod cinis es et in cinerem reverteris;" below which are the word FI AR broken up by a device of skull and cross-bones, and a New Testament opened at Luke xx. and 36th with angelic figures at each side. The emblems here introduced illustrate the inscriptions, "Remember O man that thou are dust and that to dust thou shalt return." The inhabitant of the tomb having made this general statement is further supposed to say, I shall become as these mouldering relics of mortality, but can yet claim to be "equale to the angels, who are the sonnes of

God, being of the Resurrectione." Then follow the principal epitaphs, two in number, the first running thus—

"Francisco Irvingo Consuli
Charissimo Marito Grata Coniunx
Et patri provido pia pignora justa hæc
Sed justo longe inferiora sacrarunt
Obiit 6 Novemb. 1633 Ætat An. 68."

The epitaph may be translated as follows:

A grateful spouse and pious children have dedicated to Francis Irving, Consul (or Provost), a very dear husband and a prudent father, this monument, which is very inferior to his worth. He died 6th November 1633, aged 68 years.

Descended from the powerful Annandale house of Irving, the burghal syndic here commemorated founded the Dumfries branch of the family. By marrying the daughter of Provost Herbert Raining, he improved his position in the town and increased his resources, as his wife brought him a rich dowry of lands and heritages. Well-descended, well-connected, accomplished, and wealthy, there was no dignity which the Burgh had to give beyond his reach; and before long its highest honours were laid at his feet. Francis Irving frequently filled the chief magistrate's chair; as representative of Dumfries, he sat in the Parliament of 1617; he became about the same period also a favourite at Court, as an evidence of which King James VI. gave him bailiary jurisdiction over some Crown property in the district; all the time, however, he carried on business as a merchant, in which capacity, it is said, he originated a trade with Bordeaux, for the purpose of importing French wines into the Burgh. The "grateful spouse" of the epitaph brought him, as it informs us, several children, one of whom, his eldest son, John, was member of Parliament for the town in 1630 and 1639, and officiated repeatedly as Provost. Lest the virtues expressed by the Latin inscription should, like light under a bushel, be unseen of ordinary men, "ane epitaph" in Scotch is also given, in which the deceased is represented as saying:

"King James at first me Balive named
Drumfreis oft since me Provest clamed
God hast for me ane Crowne reserved.
For King and Countrie have I served."

On the back of the monument, fronting the street, appear skull, cross-bones, and sand-glass, proclaiming as it were the brevity of human life, and Latin words embodying the same sentiment with a suitable moral lesson. The classical inscription runs thus:

"Memento Mori.
Paræneses ad viatorem.
Fabella bulla nimbus vanitas.
Flos fumus umbra somnium.
Hinc ergo fluxa ætatis ecce clepsydra.
In ossa solvor arida.
Incerta certa mortis hora te premit
Sic vive discas ut mori."

Freely translated, the inscription reads as follows:

> Be mindful of death, O traveller! Life is a tale, a bubble, a cloud, a vanity. What have we been but a flower, a shadow, a dream? Therefore behold in a sand-glass the flow of our existence. I have crumbled into dry dust. Certain is the uncertain hour of death. So live that thou mayest learn to die.

The burial-ground of the Irvings now belongs to a family with whom they were closely connected, the Barncleuch Maxwells, their head in 1665 having acquired it, we believe, by marrying a daughter of John Irving of Friars' Carse; they are now represented by a most worthy gentleman, Mr. Wellwood Herries Maxwell of Munches, Convener of the Stewartry, and its representative in Parliament from January 1868 till February 1874. His grandfather, Wellwood Johnstone, a cadet of the Westerhall family, Annandale, inherited Barncleuch in 1776, and took the name of Maxwell on the death of James Maxwell of Barncleuch, son of Wellwood's grandfather by his first marriage; and strengthened his connection with the parent stem of all the Dumfriesshire and Galloway Maxwells by marrying Katherine, daughter of Terraughtie, "The Maxwell's vet'ran chief," as he is termed by Burns. Both lie under the shadow of the Irving monument, and the inscription on the south panel, which tells truthfully of their numerous virtues, affords us also a glimpse of protracted connubial happiness such as falls to the lot of few. We quote the epitaph entire:

"By this stone are laid the remains of Wellwood Maxwell of Barncleuch, who was born 29th Octr., 1747, and who died 11th June, 1833. Pious without ostentation, religious without intolerance, he sought to do his duty to God without offending men. A good and kind father, he deserved the respect and secured the affection of his numerous family. In friendship constant and sincere, in social intercourse affable, hospitable, humane. He passed thro' life in cordial union during 55 years with Catherine Maxwell, his beloved wife, daughter of John Maxwell of Terraughtie & Munches, who born in April, 1754, died 26th November, 1832, and lies interred beside him. A lady of a vigorous and active mind, obliging, courteous, charitable; supporting her husband throughout in every religious, parental, and social duty; and like him leaving this life esteemed, beloved, regretted."

On the north panel there is an inscription in memory of two estimable sons of the wedded pair who lie beside them—Wellwood Maxwell of The Grove, died 27th June 1867, aged 81, and Alexander Maxwell of Glengaber, died 9th March of the same year, aged 80; and of other descendants, including a grandson, George Maxwell, born at Liverpool, 22d April, 1834, and unfortunately drowned while angling in the river Ken, 21st September, 1854.

CHAPTER II.

ALONG THE WESTERN WALL (CONTINUED).

AMONG the Burgh patricians of by-gone times the Gilchrists occupied an honourable and sometimes a conspicuous place, and numbers of them neighbour in death, as they did in life, the Irving family. Their oldest tombstone, a stately venerable structure, treasures the memory of "John Gilchrist, merchant, late one of the bailies of Dumfries," who took a prominent part in preparing to give Viscount Kenmure a warm reception had his threat of besieging the town been carried into effect, died Sept. 2d 1733, aged 73; also of Lilias Maxwell, his spouse, and several descendants or other relatives, and bears to have been erected, "as a testimony of duty and gratitude," by their children. Supplementary side-tablets commemorate James Gilchrist, merchant, died 22d April, 1772, aged 77; Marion Goldie, his spouse; and "a numerous family, all of whom, with the exception of one son, died young." Also, James Gilchrist, jun., merchant, died September, 1768, aged 30; Marion Corrie, his spouse; and James, their son, a writer to the Signet, died 28th August, 1816, aged 51. An adjoining monument, of more recent date, bears the names of two eminent physicians, the son and grandson, we presume, of Bailie Gilchrist. On the centre compartment of the monument there is an oval tablet, with the following inscription:

"Hic
Conduntur reliquiæ
Eben Gilchrist, M.D.,
Qui
Artem medendi
in hac urbe
per annos amplius quadraginta
felicissime exercebat
summamque laudem
tam viri
quam medici
assecutus
Obiit A.D. MDCCLXXIV.
Aetatis LXVII."

Done into English, the epitaph runs thus:

Here rest the remains of Eben. Gilchrist, M.D., who practised medicine in this city for more than forty years, and enjoyed the highest reputation, not only as a physician, but as a man. He died in the 67th year of his age. A.D. 1774.

The side panel, south, commemorates one who was a benevolent Christian gentleman, as well as a distinguished Esculapian, in these words:

"Sacred to the memory of Dr. John Gilchrist, physician in Dumfries, who died the 10th of September, 1830, in the 83d year of his age, and is here interred. During many years of his long and useful life he practised his profession in this town and over an extensive neighbourhood, and was not less eminent for his medical skill, than for the many virtues which adorned his life. In his character were happily united the elegant accomplishments of the scholar with the meek humility of the pious Christian; and he was esteemed by all who knew him for the benevolence of his heart, and the urbanity of his manners. He was chiefly instrumental in projecting and establishing that invaluable institution, the Dumfries and Galloway Infirmary, and during forty years of his life he watched over it with parental care. He lived beloved and respected, and died universally lamented."

The opposite panel is dedicated to his wife, Grizzel Corrie, one son, James, who "died in early manhood;" four daughters, Marion, who died at the age of 48, Grizzel at 55, Janet at 61, Anne at 67; and four other female children who died in infancy. A sarcophagus of graceful shape is seen in front of the monument. The grave-places just noticed are now the property of Mr. Gilchrist Clark of Speddoch, descended from the family by the mother's side.

The next monument tells that one of the provosts given by the family of Crosbie to the Burgh sleeps below; and their name and territorial patronymic are alike suggestive. The structure itself, though much defaced, is of a bold, unique, and graceful design, displaying flowing masses of masonic drapery, with tablets on each side, flanked by pilasters made up of mimic books, indicating, probably, the literary tastes of the deceased, whose epitaph runs thus:

"Here lyes interred the body of John Crosbie of Holm, merchant, late Provost of Dumfries. He died the 12 day of jully, 1720, in the 69 year of his age."

His civic rule extended over three triennial periods—1708-9-10, 1712-3-4, and 1716-7-8. A slab lying on the ground below bears the relics of an inscription, the meaning of which cannot be traced; but it may have been designed to commemorate Andrew Crosbie, son of John, who was also repeatedly chosen chief magistrate. When the young Pretender occupied Dumfries towards the close of 1745, he, on a false alarm, left his quarters in a hurry, and as he could not get hold of the reigning ruler, Mr George Bell, he carried off with him to Glasgow ex-Provost Andrew Crosbie and Mr. Walter Riddel of Glenriddel as hostages for the black mail he had levied on the town. Scott's Peter Pleydell, the witty, learned, and rollicking counsellor who figures so amusingly in "Guy Mannering," was a transcript of Andrew Crosbie, advocate, the son of "Bonnie Charlie's" captive hostage, only that the original was considerably more discreet, though not less gifted, than Dandie Dinmont's legal adviser. It may perhaps be assumed that the scholarly and jocular advocate, who was often consulted on knotty burghal questions, lies here interred. In bending over the spot, the words of Hamlet flit across the mind: "Alas, poor Yorick! I knew him, Horatio; a fellow of infinite jest, of most excellent fancy. Where be your gibes now? your gambols? your songs? your flashes of merriment that were wont to set the table in a roar?" Holm, the family house, is still to the fore, and thither Burns used often to direct his course when it was occupied by Mr. Walter Riddel (grandson of Provost Crosbie's fellow captive in the '45) and his accomplished wife Maria Woodley, after whom the mansion was called Woodley Park, and with whom, we need scarcely say, the poet was long on very intimate terms. This old domicile, so interestingly associated, stands about four miles south-west of Dumfries, and is now known by the name of Goldielea.

A stately modern monument is next arrived at, "Sacred to the memory of William Thomson, Esq. of Woodhouse," who was a gentleman of high moral worth and culture. It was to Mr. Thomson, as connected with the Dumfries Library, that Burns consigned his present of "De Lolme on the British Constitution," after he had written upon it "Mr Burns presents this book to the library, and begs they will take it as a creed of British liberty till they find a better ;" and the recipient of the volume had to allow the repentant bard next day to paste up the leaf that bore these perilous words. The book now belongs to our Mechanics' Institute Library, and when held up to the light it betrays the inscription, which seems innocent to us, but which might have proved hurtful to the poet as a Government officer, at a time when Reform and Revolution were generally deemed convertible terms. Mr. Thomson was elevated to the provostship in 1819; and served the Burgh so well that he was re-chosen in 1824. Under his auspices, as chairman, the Mechanics' Institute just named was started 15th March 1825; and on the 9th of next September it devolved upon him to present the Seven Trades with a magnificent gold chain for their Convener, in name of the subscribers, which he did in an eloquent address, worthy of the occasion. For many years afterwards, Mr. Thomson officiated as Sheriff-Clerk of Dumfriesshire. He died 22d December 1847, aged 77. His wife, Agnes Johnstone; their daughter Catherine, who died when 21; and two of their other children, who died very young, are also named upon the monument.

Even as Provost Crosbie of Holm often sat at the same Council Board with his immediate successor, George Bell, so the bodies of the two chief magistrates were not far separated in the grave, the next monument we reach being that of Provost Bell, who bore rule as such for nine years at different periods, and who, as already mentioned, happened to occupy the civic chair when the town received its unwelcome visit from "The young Chevalier." During his stay, the Jacobite Prince acted as his own Provost, and something more, making forced levies of money, arms, and shoes, and "living at heck and manger." Provost Bell did his best, without effect, to keep the kilted strangers at a safe distance; and when they did make their appearance, he and the other local authorities had nothing to do but submit. The monument is a plain, substantial structure, and it will be seen that the inscription upon it, which is as follows, makes no special reference to the leading episode in the public life of the deceased:

"This monument is erected to the memory of George Bell of Conheath, who was esteemed in life, a good and public-spirited magistrate, in business diligent and active, in friendship generous and disinterested, a tender and affectionate husband, benevolent to all, liberal to the poor; in death a pattern of patience, fortitude, and resignation. He died May 12, 1751, aged 55 years."

Dr. Alexander Carlyle, the famous minister of Inveresk, whose curious autobiography appeared in 1860, was nephew to the deceased, and when a boy paid him many visits; it is not unlikely, we think, that the above well-composed eulogium was a tribute from the heart and pen of "Jupiter Carlyle" to his worthy uncle the Provost.

South of this stone, and within the same enclosure, there are two smaller upright slabs and several thrughs or slabs placed over the Dicksons, near relatives of the family just noticed, and who gave numerous conveners to the Seven Trades, and several bailies and one provost to the Magisterial Bench. One of the uprights is in memory of Provost John Dickson, also of Conheath, who died in 1788, aged 77, and of Helen Wight, his spouse, daughter of the Rev. Robert Wight, minister of St. Michael's from 1731 till 1764; another of whose daughters was married to Provost Bell, and a third was the mother of the notable Inveresk divine already named.

Again the incidents of the Jacobite occupation come up as we read, on the next stone, "Here lies the body of George Lowthian of Staffold, Cumberland," and on an adjoining one a tribute in Latin to the memory of his son, Richard Lowthian. Under what circumstances the elder Lowthian was led to settle in Dumfriesshire, which he did in 1705, is not precisely known, but we infer that a chivalrous attachment to the house of Stuart had something to do with his crossing the Border to plant his staff in the remote district of Leadhills, where, as the inscription states, he resided 30 years—dying in Dumfries on the 21st of December, 1735.

His son Richard continued to reside in the town, purchasing property there—among other heritages, the house where the Pretender held council and kept Court during his brief sojourn. This historical domicile still remains, much transformed externally, however, as the Commercial Hotel in High Street; but the apartments, Nos. 6 and 7, which formed the Dumfries palace of King James the Seventh's grandson have fortunately experienced little change, and the chief one is popularly known as "Prince Charlie's Room." Robert Chambers, in his "Picture of Scotland," states that the proprietor of the house, though a Non-juror, and as such favourable to the Prince's claims, "judged it prudent not to appear in his company; and yet neither did he wish to offend him by the appearance of going deliberately out of his way. The expedient he adopted in this dilemma was one highly characteristic of the time. He got himself filled so exceedingly drunk that his being kept back from the company of the guest was only a matter of decency. His wife, who could not well be taxed with treason, did the honours of the house without scruple, and some other Jacobite ladies, particularly those of the attainted house of Carnwath, came forward to grace the Court." On this piece of traditional gossip no great reliance need be placed by the reader. Long after the date of the fanciful interlude which it describes we find Richard Lowthian appearing in a fairer and truer light as one of the founders of the Episcopalian congregation in Dumfries, the first humble meeting-house of which was built from funds partly lent by the opulent lord of Staffold Hall.

The monument to his father, Ionic in design, wears an aspect that is at once antique and tasteful, only that the pediment is rather disfigured than ornamented by a cherub's head with a most rueful physiognomy, perched above the epitaph, which is in these terms:

"In Memoriam
optimi viri D. G. L.
Intimae erga Deum pietatis
Insimulatæ erga proximos
charitatis.
Patriæ principis cleri suorumque
amantissimus, in peragendis negotiis
veritatis et justitiae maxime tenax
animi erga singulos vere benigni
Insigne exemplum."

A few words added in English inform ordinary readers that George Lowthian of Staffold, Cumberland, lies below; that he lived at Leadhills, Clydesdale, for 30 years; and died at Dumfries, on the 21st of December, 1735, aged 70. The Latin epitaph may be thus translated :

> In memory of the excellent Mr George Lowthian, a man of the strictest piety towards God, and of unfeigned charity to his neighbours. He loved his country, his king, his church, and his own kindred, and in all he did was remarkably tenacious of truth and justice. He was a glorious example of truly benevolent disposition.

An intimation on the pedestal states that the structure was restored in 1845 by "John Hall de Mollance," and though it is in tolerably good preservation, it is not without need of being again repaired.

On the son's tombstone, which is of the tabular form, there is a classical inscription in these terms:

"Hic Jacet
Quod mortale fuit
Ricardi Lowthian de Staffold armigeri
vir
pietate
charitate
et benevolentia cordis
insignis.
Obiit
primo Maiæ 1784
Æ'etat. xc."

> Here lyes what was mortal of Richard Lowthian of Staffold. Esquire: a man eminent for piety, charity, and benevolence of heart. He died 1st of May 1784, aged 90.

Adjoining is the grave-plot of a related family, that of George Ross, merchant, with a monument upon it in memory of Ann Dickson, his spouse; five of their children; and his brother, John Ross, surgeon, died 25th May 1750, aged 25. Both of the deceased gentlemen were nephews of Richard Lowthian.

THE SOUTH-WEST CORNER.

Arrived at the south-west corner, a fabric displaying some fine workmanship meets the eye; but all the artistic labour and large money outlay spent upon it are now of little avail, as the inscription which it bore is so obliterated that it must soon become a blank. With difficulty we are able to ascertain that the sepulchre below contains the remains of Bailie James Gordon, writer, and of his spouse, — Rule. the former of whom died in September 1736. Bailie Gordon was lieutenant of one of the seven volunteer companies organised by Provost John Crosbie to defend Dumfries, when it was menaced by the Jacobites under Lord Kenmure. He was probably a cadet of the Earlston family. Both in the last century and in this the name of Gordon, as associated with the legal profession and the magisterial bench, appears repeatedly in the annals of the town.

On the wall beside the foregoing rises the grandest of all the old memorial stones with which the churchyard is graced, and it needs no direct appeal to secure attention; its bold graceful outlines and beautiful sculptured work being enough to secure the notice of the most careless passenger, and rendering it a perfect study to the artist. The style is Rennaisance of the richest kind, but by whom planned or carried out is not known. We have heard the supposition hazarded that this masonic gem may have been brought out of its rude stone materials by the cunning hand of some of the artists employed on St. Paul's Cathedral, London; and the design is certainly worthy of Inigo Jones. The main portion, or body of the work, includes an oblong diagonal tablet, flanked with Corinthian pillars, and having boy-like genii, three feet six inches high, on each side. A mass of drapery, gracefully disposed, veils the basement. The entablature looks like a pavilion of clouds, in which three winged cherubs are disporting complacently. A suitable crown for the entire edifice is supplied by a sharply-peaked pediment, florid with roses, vines, and foliage, such as Grinling Gibbons might have carved, and having in the centre a round shield, the dexter side of which displays the Kirkpatrick device of a hand and dagger. Each of the three compartments that make up the monument has a symbolic meaning: the pall-like robes below, disclosing a winged skull, being emblematic of death; the figures which support the middle piece personifying grief for the departed; and the clouds over all representing the heavenly region where suffering and sorrow are alike unknown. The cranium, which is in profile, has been so artistically treated as to lose much of its intrinsic repulsiveness ; and the child-like figures are so beautiful that Canova might have been proud to claim them as the product of his chisel. Faultless in conformation, they could have passed for Cupids had they not been incarnations of woe. One of them has the right foot planted upon a skull, not to show that a victory has been obtained over death, but that death has occasioned all the irrepressible grief of the little mourner ; and his companion on the other side is wringing his hands in the abandonment of a sorrow that refuses to be comforted.

The monument, magnificent in itself, is rendered all the more attractive from the circumstance that it belongs to the Sharpes of Hoddam, an ancient historical race founded by Ivon Kirkpatrick about seven hundred years ago, whose chief, Sir Roger, completed the slaughter of Comyn which Bruce had begun. Thus the dust buried here vividly recalls to us the men and the incidents of Scotland's national resurrection.

William Kirkpatrick of Ellisland, a direct descendant of the "I'll mac siccar" chief, married a daughter of Lord Justice Clerk Erskine ; and their son Charles having been bequeathed the estate of Hoddam by Matthew Sharpe, he took the surname of Sharpe in terms of the entail. General Sharpe, Charles Sharpe's eldest son, was the first member for the Dumfries Burghs elected under the Reform Act 1832. In returning thanks for the honour awarded to him, he feelingly referred to the family burial-place, expressing a wish that his ashes might be laid there, so that in death as in life he might maintain his connection with the county town. "Provided I do my duty," he further said, "to the satisfaction of the constituency, I hope some surviving friend, after my course is run, will inscribe on my tombstone—for I can desire no prouder epitaph—"Here rest the remains of the first representative of the Independent Constituency of the Dumfries District of Burghs." The gallant member, however, was buried in Hoddam Churchyard, as were his brothers, Admiral A. K. Sharpe and Charles Kirkpatrick Sharpe, the distinguished wit, antiquary, poet, and artist; and of course the St. Michael's monument bears no such inscription as the above. The only one upon it reads thus: "Here is interred the body of Sussana Muir, spouse to John Sharpe of Hoddam, who died in 57th year of her age, 26th day of the month of October, in the year of our lord 1710." She was from Cassencairie in Galloway. The monument has been recently repainted, and the marble-like hue it now wears displays its beauties with full effect. Mr. William Sharpe of Hoddam is the present worthy representative of this ancient house.

Neighbouring the Hoddam monument on the east side a stately structure rises, in the Ionic style, to mark the burial-place of John Gibson, who died at Braehead, Kirkmahoe, on the 20th of August 1836, and of his wife, Elizabeth Scott, and their children—Thomas, aged 25: Jessie, 21; William, 28; Edward Watson, 45; and John Erskine. The latter, a surgeon by profession, was an accomplished gentleman, who died on the 19th of January 1833, at the early age of 31. He furnished many admirable contributions to the *Dumfries Magazine;* one of them in particular, "The Country Kirn," manifesting great descriptive power, and a racy humour much resembling that of "Famous Fergusson." John Erskine Gibson also published a meritorious professional work entitled "A Medical Sketch of Dumfriesshire," and his name occupies a distinguished place in the journal of Captain Scoresby, whom he accompanied to the Arctic regions, and to whose discoveries there he added many valuable particulars. He excelled also in natural history and antiquarian pursuits, the taste for which has been inherited by his son, Mr W. G. Gibson, his sole male representative. The monument also commemorates Mary Gibson, sister of the above John Gibson and wife of E. Watson, died 16th September 1854, aged 66. The Gibsons of this branch are an old Dumfries family, having resided in the town for centuries, during which the deaconship of the Fleshers' Corporation was so often held by them as to have almost seemed hereditary.

Two brothers, noted builders in their day, occupy narrow houses near by, namely, Thomas and Andrew Twaddell, each of whom was honoured to be deacon of the Squaremen. The former died on July 8th 1762, at the age of 55; the latter on the 9th October 1787, at the age of 52. In conjunction with Alexander Affleck, Thomas Twaddell built the Church and Steeple of St. Michael's, which were completed in 1745, about the time the Highlanders occupied the town. Whilst surveying the humble table tombstones below which these builders lie, we think of the serio-comic dialogue of the clowns in *Hamlet.* "Who," asks one of them, "builds stronger than a mason, a shipwright, or a carpenter?" to which his fellow-sexton replies, "A grave-maker; the houses that he makes last till doomsday." Even so, the lowly tenements excavated in "God's acre" abide, without needing renewal, though the lordly mansions, "the gorgeous palaces, and solemn temples" reared for living men, crumble away and disappear, however strong and stately.

CHAPTER III.

BETWEEN THE WESTERN WALL AND THE FOOTPATH EASTWARD.

OUR survey must now extend over a considerable tract of ground which lies between the western boundary and the footpath that curves from the gate to the south gable of the Church, and then takes a southerly direction. Here the ground is crowded with tombstones, chiefly of the altar shape, commemorating magistrates, merchants, craftsmen, and others. Giving precedence due to "the authorities," even though dead, we begin with such memorials of departed provosts as are to be found in the section; to reach which a discursive march has to be taken.

A towering obelisk "lifts its tall head" high above neighbouring stones, on the plinth of which several members of the Duchra family are named; descendants of William Craik of Arbigland and Duchrae, or Duchra, who had the honour of being chosen the first Provost of Dumfries after the Revolution Settlement. On the north side there is a Latin inscription, which simply states that "Jeanæ Craik de Duchra" was born on the 20th of March 1712, and died on the 11th of July 1762. On the south side is the name "Joannis Stewart, armigeri de Castle-Stewart," born 14th of November 1700, died on the 12th of January 1769. The east side, half hidden by an upright slab, bears the following epitaph:

"Lectissimis parentibus sibi amicisque charissimis
Joanni Stewart armigero de Castlestewart
et Jeanæ Craik filiæ Gulielmi Craik armigeri
de Duchra monumentum hoc qualecumque
pietatis gratæque mentis indicium Gulielmus
filius natu maximus mærens posuit
A.D. MDCCLXX."

This we translate as follows:

In memory of his beloved parents and dearest friends, John Stewart, Esq. of Castle-Stewart, and Jane Craik, daughter of William Craik, Esq. of Duchra, William, their eldest son, has in great grief erected this monument, such as it is, to show his filial affection and grateful remembrance.

The tablet on the west side is dedicated to the memory of Mary Charlotte Bouverie Campbell, who died on the 16th of November, 1837, aged 12; and of "Grace Macandie Campbell, her mother, who died at Albany Place here, on 5th January, 1855, aged 50 years"—Mrs Campbell having been connected with the Craiks by marriage.

Overlooked by the pillar, and fronting the wall, two very old flat slabs are visible. On a portion of one of them some lines, carved in relief, could readily be traced, but they have suffered so much abrasion from the hand of Time, and the feet of irreverent travellers, that we tried repeatedly without success to decipher them; and at length turned away only half contented, recording our belief that the lines "were designed to commemorate the Provost William Craik already mentioned, but, unfaithful to their trust, they reveal neither name nor date." On a final attempt being made, the task was unexpectedly much facilitated by Mr. Watson, monumental mason, who, after brushing up the face of the stone, washed it well over—the flood of water formed upon it operating like a flood of light, through which medium we succeeded in discovering the suggestive words, "Hic jacet . . . Gulielmi Craik, consulis," . . . and after a long, tantalising hiatus, "Anno Dom. 1697." Our anticipation was thus realised, and the identification of Provost's Craik's tombstone complete. At this stage we obtained the aid of Dr. Cranstoun, who, with his assistant, Mr. J. F. Rowbotham, scholar of Balliol College, Oxford, and an excellent Latinist, pored over the still mysterious epitaph for several hours, resting not till its *ipsissima verba* had been wrung out, as it were, to their great gratification and ours. The valuable historical inscription thus recovered runs as follows:—

"Hic jacet corpus consultissimi viri,
Gulielmi Craik de Arbigland, nuper Dumfrisii consulis,
qui ecclesiæ Christi, patriæ suæ humi, suæ civitatis fidus assertor erat,
qui finem vitæ curuli feliciter imposuit
primo die Aprilis, Anno Dom. 1697. Ætatis suæ ——."

Which words may be thus rendered:—

Here lies the body of the most worshipful William Craik of Arbigland, late Provost of Dumfries, who was a staunch champion of Christ's Church, of his native land, and of his own town, who brought his civic career to a prosperous close on the 1st of April, A.D. 1697, in the — year of his age.

On the same stone, below this epitaph, there is the subjoined one, cut in letters that are less antique, though it was no easy matter to make them out :—

"Sub hoc cippo quiescunt
cineres Glicerii Vallæ
Gulielmi Craik de Duch
rae conjugis quæ mortem
obiit 13 die mensis Augusti,
anno MDCCXIV et ætatis suæ XLIII."

"O Mors quid jactas? quamvis superasse videris,
Existat superis meliore quiete oritura."

Read in English, the inscription runs thus :—

Under this slab rest the ashes of Glicerium Wallace, wife of William Craik of Duchrae, who died on the 13th of August, A.D. 1714, in the 43d year of her age.

O Death, why boastest thou? Though thou thinkest to have laid her low, yet we pray she may live on high to rise, like the sun, in a happier land of rest.

There was no more notable man of his day in Dumfries than the half-forgotten magistrate whose honoured bones were here deposited. He was first chosen as burghal ruler in 1674, and it was not till the Michaelmas of 1678 that he fell back into the ranks for a short period, when David Bishop received the reins. Next year they were handed to Mr. Craik, and after the troublous and testing eight years which ensued, we find him again presiding as provost when William and Mary were proclaimed king and queen at the Dumfries Market Cross, and the religious freedom for which he had contended was settled upon a lasting basis.* We copy from the eighth volume of the Acts of the Scottish

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* The following extract from the St. Michael Kirk Session Records, dated 4th July 1700, affords us a pleasing glimpse of the Provost and his spouse, as benefactors of the poor: "The Session, considering that William Craik of Arbigland, late Provost of this Burgh, a little before his death, had mortified to the poor of this Burgh the sum of five hundred merks, which he ordered his son, Adam Craik of Arbigland, to pay; as also that his lady had mortified one hundred merks for the use foresaid, to be paid by her son, William Craik of Duchrae, and that the term of payment is now elapsed: they appointed Mr. Patoun to advertise them to pay it."

Parliament the "Royal Ratification" granted to the deceased gentleman in 1681 :

> "Our sovereign lord affirms and confirms the charter made and granted by his majestie under the great seale at Whitehall, the eight day of June, 1666, in favor of his majestie's lovit William Craik, Provost of Dumfries . . . all and haill the lands of Duchraw, extending to ane Ten-pound land of old extent, containing and comprehending the particular lands under written, viz.: the lands of Tornorroch, Rone, Drumglass, the two Duchraws, Clone, Barbech, Uroch, Uliack, The Maines, the two Craigs, Drumbreck, with the milne of Duchraw, milne lands, multure, &c., togither with the fishing in the water of Die, belonging to the said lands, all lying within the parochis of Balmaghie and Stewartree of Kirkcudbright and Sheriffdome of Dumfries."

The slab which lies alongside of the Provost's stone covers the remains of "Jean Heron, daughter of Andrew Heron of Bargali," wife of a member of the Castle-Stewart family, with whom that of Duchra was closely connected, and who "was born 10th of March 1687, and died 27th of June 1753."

Immediately adjoining this imposing structure stands the neat family monument of William Bell, Provost of Dumfries in 1864. On it is inscribed the name of his only son, David Bell, a very amiable and gifted young man, who breathed his last on the 23d of January 1864, in the 26th year of his age ; and of whom it was truly said by a congenial spirit, the late Mr. David Dunbar, schoolmaster and poet, that "he was manly when a boy and noble during a whole life, and brief though it was he compressed into it the work of a long life-time." The father, mother, brothers, and sisters of ex-Provost Bell are borne in remembrance by an inscription on a slab below : David Bell, coal merchant, died 5th June 1845, aged 76 ; Agnes Lockhart, his wife ; George H. Bell, their son, died 12th April 1838, aged 31 ; Agnes and Jane, their daughters, the former of whom died 31st March 1865, aged 60, the latter 18th April 1867, aged 66.

The next stone we have to notice carries us away in fancy many centuries back—the name upon it, Corbet, being that of a family who passed northward from Cumberland when William the Lion bore rule ; and one offshoot, settling down in Dumfries, became, genealogically speaking, a goodly tree of large size and great productiveness. Many of the Corbets, thus far descended, held burghal rank as trade conveners and bailies, and at least two of them officiated as chief magistrates. The most noteworthy of the latter was Provost James Corbet, whose contest with another candidate for the civic chair in 1759 gave rise to the strife between "the Pyets and the Crows," that forms such an extraordinary episode in the annals of the Burgh; and of which an account is afterwards given in connection with his monument, which stands on the north wall near the entrance-gate. It is his father, we presume, who is commemorated on the table-stone before us, which bears this inscription:

"Here lyes John Corbet, late baillie of Dumfries, who Departed this life the 20th day of Nov., 1682, and of his age 52."

Also, the following Latin epitaph:

"Hic jacet urbanus comis miserisque benignus,
  Prudens conjugio fidus, amansque boni.
Fascibus ornatus, justus, mens æqua secundis,
  Nec depressa malis: posthuma fama viget."

A translation is subjoined:

Here lies a citizen who was courteous, charitable to the distressed, thrifty, faithful to the marriage vow, and a lover of virtue. He was decked with civic honours, was upright in all his dealings, neither elated by prosperity nor dejected by adversity: his fame lives still.

Neighbouring the Corbet monument, one of a plainer pattern rises to mark the resting place of another municipal ruler, Thomas Edgar of Reidbank, who was Provost in 1730-1-2, dying on the 14th of September 1739, "aged 78 years and 8 months"; the stone also commemorating his spouse, Janet Reid, daughter of a merchant, who lies in an adjoining grave.

Ebenezer Hepburn, a successful merchant who, as Bailie Hepburn, figured in the Pyet-and-Crow conflict, was raised to the provostship in 1762; and he had the honour of being re-elected in 1768. A table monument raised over his spouse, Margaret M'Gachie, is seen further south, though it does not appear that he lies in the same locality. Happy must Provost Hepburn have been in his household affairs if the epitaph on the stone does no more than justice to his better half. After stating that she departed this life on the 19th of March 1765, at the age of 48, her character is thus depicted: "Distinguished by sweetness of temper and simplicity of manners, she adorned the beauties of the person with those of the mind, and was truly the virtuous as well as the amiable woman." Three of her children, it is added, were buried beside her, including "Jean:" "what the mother was the daughter promised to be," but "fell death's untimely frost" nipped the budding flower before she had reached "sweet sixteen."

Within a low square enclosure, about three yards eastward, there are three stones, and near them, northward, two stones, all of the tabular form, which bear the names of distinguished families, the Coplands of Colliston and the Gordons of Earlston, whose members repeatedly intermarried with each other. The former claim to have sprung from the Yorkshire knight who captured David II. at the battle of Neville's Cross; the latter are nearly related to the noble house of Kenmure, and had as one of their forebears the famous Alexander Gordon of Airds, who pioneered the Reformation in Dumfriesshire and Galloway; and they gave at least one martyr to the cause of the Covenant in 1679. On one of the tables we read: "Here lyes the body of John Copland of Dalbeattie, late Provost of Dumfries, who died February, 1695, aged 78 years." He was chief magistrate in 1680-1-2-3, during which time *the* Persecution, as it is emphatically called, raged over the district; and such sympathy with its victims was shewn by him and by his immediate predecessors, Provosts Bishop and Craik, that Claverhouse complained of them to his superior officer, designating them ironically as the "well-affected magistrates of Dumfries." Another of the stones records the death of William Copland of Colliston on on 9th February 1715, at the age of 77; of Alexander Copland, his son, on 11th June, 1774, aged 74; and of Anne, his spouse, daughter of Sir Thomas Gordon of Earlston, Bart.; and bears the following touching, though inflated, tribute, which is now barely legible:

> "If all those who well knew and could record his integrity, public spirit, and benevolence, and her amiable manners and worth, had been immortal, this memorial need not have been inscribed by their eldest son, William Copland of Collistoun. Anno Ætat Suæ 71. A.D. 1808."

A third stone commemorates Thomas Copland of Blackwood, advocate, "lawful sone to William Copland of Colliston, who lived beloved, and died lamented the 2nd of September, 1735, aged 28;" also Susan, the advocate's sister, died 11th November 1832, aged 86, "highly esteemed and sincerely regretted." The William Copland here mentioned was municipal chief for two periods—1702-3-4 and 1706-7-8. During his "reign the Mid-Steeple was built, the Town Mills on the Maxwelltown side were constructed, and the Caul was carried across the Nith in order to bring their machinery into play. Looking carefully below the most northerly of the Colliston monuments, we find it resting upon an older stone, bearing the oldest inscription in the entire churchyard; but which, owing to its position, only reveals the name of "William Copland," with the date of his death, "December, 1620."

On the Gordon stones we read of Margaret M'Gowan, spouse to William Copland of Colliston, died 17th September 1730, aged 55; of John Ronaldson of Blairhall, who married Ann, only child of the above, died 22d June 1796, aged 33; of James Gordon, youngest son of Sir Thomas Gordon of Earlston, who died before he reached manhood; and of other connections of the family.

Whilst, in the autumn of 1706, one of the fabrics just named, the Steeple, was gradually rising up to a height which enabled it to overlook all the other buildings of the Burgh, a formidable crowd met at the Market Cross on its north side, and burned the Articles of Union, to shew their detestation of that measure—a feeling with which all the local rulers, civil and ecclesiastical, had full sympathy. A striking evidence of this hostility to the union with England is supplied by a monument that stands near the Copland burying-place. It is tabular in form, but having the sides all closed in, so as to form an oblong block, and with an upright head-piece that has been affixed at a comparatively modern date. Though small enough to be easily overlooked by visitors, its florid ornamentation needs only to be seen to be admired; but to many an eye its chief attraction will be the words upon it: "In Memoriam Robertus Johnston de Keltoun," who, it is further said, as M.P. for Dumfries, "Scoticæ Libertatis assertor, Unioni fortiter opposuit"—that is, asserted the liberty of Scotland by stoutly opposing the Union. The last of the Burgh's representatives in the Scottish Parliament, Mr. Johnston, was also its Provost in 1696, 1698, and 1700-1-2. He voted with John Sharpe of Hoddam and the other "barons" (thirty-three in all) who vainly attempted to keep their country in the position of an independent kingdom; and according to his dying wish his anti-Union testimony, quoted above and now barely traceable, was engraved upon his tombstone. This indomitable "last of the barons" died on the 3d of November 1715, at the age of 72. On the sides of the monument are several shield-like figures cut in high relief, one florid with a ship in full sail, another with a heart, crown, and stars; a well executed heraldic escutcheon, with the legend "Appropri qua dies," ornaments the head-piece; and on the other side, below one of the inscriptions borne by the monument, a monogram of the deceased is beautifully engraved. Hugh M'Cornock, merchant, whose mother was a Johnston, is named on the monument, died 21st January, 1800, aged 40; also, John Ramsay, writer, who married his daughter Christina, died 6th February, 1831, aged 54.

The last of the chief magistrates who lies in this section, whom we have to notice, is David Bishop, who is buried within a railed enclosure a few yards further east. He ruled over the Burgh during a part of the period when the Persecution was raging, and, being a good Presbyterian, he discountenanced the cruel proceedings of Claverhouse in the district. To all genuine archæologists the monumental relic which treasures his memory is full of interest. The following inscription is cut in relief along the margin:

"Here lyes David Bishop, late Provist of Drumfries, who departed this present life the 7 day of October an. do. 1679: Erect by Jannet Cunningham, his spouse."

Emblems of mortality figure on the face of the monument, with the addition of the sexton's arms—a shovel and spade; over which group are the warning words "Memento Mori," and below it, in modern letters, the name "A. Mitchelson."

This venerable stone is overlooked by one of the finest modern monuments to be seen in this old part of the burying-ground. It commemorates one of Provost Bishop's descendants, Andrew Mitchelson, dyer, obiit 16th January 1820, aged 72, his wife Helen Grierson, and children, including William Mitchelson of the Bengal Medical Staff, died 27th March, 1866, aged 68. It is in the form of a canopy, with columns of light brown granite supporting a marble tablet, over which hangs the mask of Hope—personifying the undying emotion which remains to solace those who mourn for their dead, and without which life would become a burden.

"Cease every joy to glimmer on my mind ;
But leave, O leave, the light of hope behind."

"Eternal Hope . . .
When wrapt in flames the clouds of ether glow,
And heaven's last thunder shakes the world below,
Thou, undismayed, shalt o'er the ruins smile,
And light thy torch at Nature's funeral pile."

Another member of the same family, John Mitchelson, died 31st August 1708, aged 50, sleeps near by; and as he was a merchant, we shall begin our survey of the monuments to his class with a notice of the one by which he is held in remembrance. It is an old thrugh, which was doubtless deemed a model one when new. Below the name and date appears a vigorous versified inscription, reminding one of John Bunyan's poetical style; which is followed up by a still more vigorous, though uncouth, display of those grim emblems of mortality, surmounted by the inevitable winged cherub, which were so largely drawn upon by the monumental sculptors of that period. The epitaph runs thus:

"If grace, good manners, gifts of mind,
Yea where all moral virtues have combined,
Compleat a man, behold beneath this stone
Here lyes interrd, whom rich and poor bemoan.
He run his race, abundant entrance got,
His name is savori, and shall not rot."

Neighbouring stones commemorate Alexander Mitchelson of Carcrogo, died 30th March 1789, aged 51; Margaret Leckie, spouse of James Mitchelson, died January 14th 1781, aged 85, and their daughter Margaret.

One merchant's memorial takes us back to the times of Charles II. It covers the dust of John Brown, who died 2d February 1666—the year of the Pentland rising, when Dumfries was occupied by "rebel" Covenanters. On the same stone appear the name of Samuel Affleck, mason, died 28th February 1804, aged 65, and that of his spouse, Agnes Lithgow. More modern dates appear on neighbouring stones: William Gillison, died 24th May 1700 (age not mentioned); James Dalgliesh, died 9th May 1733, aged 38; and James Carruthers died 28th March 1784, aged 40; the wife of the first named, Marion Wilson, and of the second, Margaret Gillison, sister of her husband, appearing also on the record.

An altar stone, which adjoins the Earlston monuments, bears the name of Thomas Gordon, wine merchant, with the following eulogium:

> "Endowed by nature with an active and vigorous understanding, ardent and constant in his attachments, endeared by his affectionate temper to his family and friends, and possessing the esteem and confidence of a numerous and respectable acquaintance, he died on the 12th of January 1813, aged 47 years."

His widow, Agnes Kirkpatrick, is named upon the monument; their young daughter Sarah; also their son William, drowned at the age of 17, in the river Whampoo, near Canton, when bathing—one of many Dumfries youths who have perished prematurely abroad by flood or field. He was in the East India Company's service, and it is said of him that "he was a young man of the most amiable disposition and engaging manners."

William Kirkpatrick, who figured conspicuously in the Pyet-and-Crow contest, to which reference have been already made, is commemorated, together with his wife Henrietta, by another altar stone. He was one of the four merchant burgesses who sided with the Trades in that memorable struggle for the Dumfries provostship; and for the part he took in it he was sentenced, by the High Court of Justiciary, to pay a fine of 900 merks. He is mentioned in the inscription as "formerly of this town, and long one of its magistrates," died April 1782, aged 73.

Thomas Hynd, who died 17th November 1739, aged "79 y, 9 m," not only used the weights and measures behind his counter, but bore the figurative scales of justice as a bailie. Agnes Edgar, his spouse; and John Hynd, of Drumcoltran, died 1st June 1779, aged 41, are named in the same inscription. Another burgess, who in the same way sold goods to the lieges and helped to rule them, is commemorated, in letters of antique spelling, thus: "Here lyes John Martin of Kirkland, laite Bailie in this burghe, who departed this life upon the first day of July 1714, and of his age 56 years." William, his son, also a magistrate, is named upon the same stone: died 29th April 1777, aged 61.

Not a few merchants named Reid figured in Dumfries at an early period, and rarely indeed, during the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, was the Town Council without some of them, either as ordinary members or as occupants of the Bench. Bailie John Reid, who died 20th May 1700, aged 39, married into the Corbet family: he, his wife Isobel, with their daughter Marion, who wedded a Glasgow merchant, William Carlyle, sprung from the old Annandale family of that name, are mentioned upon one stone. We find another dedicated to his son John, died 16th August 1718, aged 30; and his daughter Isobel, spouse of John Hynd, "clerk to the Commissariot of Dumfries," died 8th May 1737.

Several merchants named Clark acquired also high municipal rank last century. One of them, John, was provost in 1777-8-9; another, William, was provost in 1786-7-8. On a venerable altar stone we find the names of other members of the family: Bailie William Clark, died 4th April 1751, aged 83; his wife, Elizabeth Callander; also William Clark, sen., writer, died 19th April 1783, aged 72; Janet Costine, his spouse; William Clark, jun., writer, died 26th January 1783, aged 31; Bailie James Clark, died 27th December 1783, aged 76; and Mary Costine, his spouse.

During the old feudal times the Jardines were famous in both fight and foray, and at a later period we find several of the name occupying a good position in a more peaceful sphere, as merchants of the Burgh. On an antique altar stone, whose border is grimly florid with mortuary emblems, we read: "Here lyes Jean Beattie, spouse to William Jardine, merchant, who departed this life" 24th January 1728, aged 45; also the said William Jardine, died 26th October 1748, aged 83; also James Jardine, merchant, died 22d January 1772, aged 43, with Janet Corrie, his spouse. Robert Jardine, writer, son of William, lies below another stone of similar type, died 14th June 1742, at the early age of 26; also Robert Jardine, the late proprietor of Cresswell, died 11th March, 1840, aged 77, with Janet Thomson, his spouse.

Among the many honoured merchant burgesses of which Dumfries could boast during the first half of the current century, none stood higher than Mr. Robert Thomson. A handsome monument is erected over his remains, the inscription stating that he was born 28th November 1775, and died 21st of July, 1848. Not a few of our wholesale and retail dealers in the grocery line hereabouts and in other towns speak with pride of their former connection with Mr. Thomson's establishment. His worth is also commemorated by a memorial bust placed in the Observatory—an institution which was originated and established chiefly through his exertions. He was married first to Joan Murray, next to Margaret M'Robert, both of whom are named in the inscription; as are also, his infant daughter Helen, another daughter Barbara Jane, who died at 34, and two sons, William Murray, who died at 44, and John Douglas, who lived to be three score years and ten.

Round the word "Hannahfield," as cut on a stately modern monument in the Grecian style that stands further south a host of chequered memories is grouped. It is associated in the popular mind with the "good old times" when the Burgh had a large landed patrimony; and with the evil days of a more recent date when goodly sections of it had to be sacrificed in order to maintain the public credit. At what time Hannahfield proper ceased to be town's property, we are not aware, but the owner of it, Mr. John Hannah, over whose ashes this monument is reared, purchased the less valuable affiliated estate of Kingholm, when it and other Burgh heritages were sold, so recently as 1827. On Kingholm, it need scarcely be said, the Trades used to compete for the Silver Gun, the donation of James VI., but the British Solomon did not as is pretty generally supposed give the Merse itself to either the Burgh or the Trades. If "bowls roll right," the best share of both Hannahfield and Kingholm will again accrue to Dumfries. When the above Mr. John Hannah, who amassed a fortune in the West Indies, departed this life in his 80th year, on the 20th of July 1841, he was succeeded by his nephew, Mr. John Wood, who left no issue by his wife when he died on the 11th of June, 1859; and as Mrs. Wood died intestate, and without heirs, 8th December, 1869, aged 69, the property lapsed to the Crown. A memorial from the Town Council praying King James' descendant, Queen Victoria, to re-grant the alienated estates was graciously entertained; the Lords of the Treasury acting for her Majesty having drawn up a deed of gift vesting them in the Magistrates of the Burgh and the Sheriffs of the County, in order that a public park for Dumfries may be made and maintained therefrom, and the residue be used for promoting high class education in Dumfriesshire and Galloway. On the 20th of March 1873, when good tidings to this effect were received, the town bells were set-a-ringing; but their rejoicing music was premature, as the scheme has somehow gone "aglee," like many others ingeniously laid by "baith mice and men"; though that it will come all right in the end there is still some reason to believe.

The monument commemorates also the parents of John Hannah—Robert Hannah and Agnes Blount, the former of whom died 17th September, 1799, aged 74; also their other children, Agnes, Helen, and Robert, the latter of whom died in infancy.

On several tabular stones we find the following names of other merchants: William Currie, died 16th January 1784, aged 30; James Brown, died 6th April 1806, aged 49, with Elizabeth M'Kinnell, his wife; Thomas Fergusson, died 10th October 1832, aged 54, with Jean Young, his wife; Charles Hannah, vintner, died 13th November 1781, aged 58; Matthew Palmer, died 18th October 1767, aged 80, with Mary Gordon, his wife, and members of their family, including Robert, who died at 51, James, a bookbinder, who died at 22; and Charles Hannah, vintner, died 13th November 1781, aged 58. A neat headstone commemorates Thomas Dobbie, innkeeper, died 2d January 1855, aged 64; his daughter Jessie, wife of Thomas G. Robison, merchant, Liverpool; and other children, including Edward Dobbie of the Inland Revenue, died 24th October 1864, aged 28.

Some members of the learned professions are buried in this section. Near the Earlston altar-stones may be seen a gracefully shaped freestone block, bearing the name of the Rev. James Gordon Ferrier, who was unfortunately drowned 12th August 1873. He was the eldest son of the late Mr. Walter Ferrier, W.S., Edinburgh.

Solid-looking and stately rises the Barnbarroch monument near by, "sacred to the memory" of Robert Threshie, who died on the 26th July, 1836, aged 72; of his spouse, Mary Currie; their daughter, Helen Goldie; and their sons, Major Cairns Threshie, who died in his early prime at Peshawur, India, and Robert Threshie of Barnbarroch and Mouswald Place, who died on the 4th of March 1860, in his 65th year. The elder Mr. Threshie was born in humble circumstances; but being naturally plodding, aspiring, and of more than average ability, he achieved a high position, rising alike in opulence and social rank. From being a lawyer's apprentice he became Clerk to the Dumfriesshire Commissioners of Supply, Commissary Clerk, and Postmaster. With the fruits of his industry and success, he built in George Street the finest mansion of which the Burgh at that time could boast, and purchased the valuable estate of Barnbarroch, in the Stewartry, the latter of which he transmitted to his eldest son. The latter gentleman also succeeded to several of his father's professional appointments, and more than maintained the position he inherited. As Clerk of the Dumfries Commissioners of Supply, Road Trustees, and Nith Commissioners, as agent for the Bank of Scotland, and as the head of a leading legal firm, Mr. Robert Threshie, jun., had a wide and varied field for the exercise of the excellent business qualities which he possessed. He was intimately conversant with County matters, and in his official management of them displayed admirable tact and skill.

Southward rises a stately Grecian edifice, which bears to have been erected by Provost David Armstrong, "the last surviving member of a much attached family," who himself died about sixteen years after the latest date in the inscription. The various members of the vanished household are thus recorded : John Armstrong, writer, one of the Town Clerks of Dumfries, died 10th May 1808, aged 43 ; Jean Blackstock, his spouse ; their children, George, George, Jane M'Millan, cut off when young ; Janet, who died at 18 ; Agnes, at 23 ; Charles, a Lieutenant in the Royal Navy, at 32, in January 1832 ; and John, who, like his father, was a solicitor, dying at the same age as Charles, 1st March, 1837.

While some of the monuments we meet with seem burdened by an excess of eulogy, the one next arrived at, a graceful cross-surmounted edifice, is singularly unique in its silence and simplicity. The inscription, which we subjoin, embodies no compliments, though the first name it bears is that of a very worthy gentleman, by profession a writer, who died about fifty years since ; and it is also devoid of dates.

"In memory of David Newall, Esq., who, with his mother, Ann Ewart, and his wife, Margaret Rae, with ten of their children, David, Anna, Anna Campbell, Adam, Catherine (Mrs. Babington), James, William, Margaret, Marion, and John, lie buried here."

Adam Newall, named above, was long a successful wine-merchant at Bourdeaux, and spent his closing years in Dumfries, where he was much respected.

Westward, near the Hannahfield monument, we find a table-stone bearing the following classical inscription :

> "Parentis sui optimi
> qui per multos annos in hac urbe
> artem medicam
> humaniter ae feliciter exercebat
> qui probitate ac acquitate animi
> morumque facilitate
> omnibus acceptus
> amicis percarus rixit
> et decessit desideratus
> 6to Decem. 1763, annos 63 natus,
> hoc monumentum posuit
> Johannes Gordon."

The epitaph may be thus translated :

> Erected by John Gordon, in memory of his most excellent father, who for many years humanely and successfully practised the medical profession in this town. Distinguished by probity, equanimity, and courtesy, he lived esteemed by all and beloved by his friends ; and died lamented, 6th December 1763, aged 63 years.

Another medical gentleman, William Hepburn, son of Provost Hepburn probably, lies below a similar stone further south. He practised in Jamaica, and died at Dalscairth 30th May, 1775, aged 63.

The burial-place of a family named Blount, who were farmers in Dalscone for several generations, is covered by a tabular erection, commemorating Samuel Blount, died 3d March 1796, aged 74; his wife, Janet Gibson; their daughter Agnes ; and their sons David and George, the latter of whom was, like his father, tenant of Dalscone, and died 5th December 1825, aged 72. In 1721 their churchyard landmark was violently taken away by Deacon Broadfoot and William Moffat, shoemakers, upon which the Session, who in these days exercised an undisputed lordship over the whole ground, interfered, and finding that the appropriated tombstone belonged of right to the Blounts, ordained the removers of it to replace it "on the same room they took it off."*

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* Kirk-Session Minutes.

CHAPTER IV.

BETWEEN THE WESTERN WALL AND THE FOOTPATH EASTWARD (CONTINUED).

THE same section of St. Michael's which gives sleeping-room to so many merchant councillors and magistrates supplies a resting place to several trade conveners and deacons of note who had seats beside them in the local parliament. Among these burgh craftsmen the Primroses, whose burial-ground lies near the church, direct north from the Duchra obelisk, occupied an honourable position. Visions of the Blue Blanket, of the Siller Gun, and of the other paraphernalia associated with the famous Incorporated Seven rise up to fancy's eye, and the cry "A Loreburn" rings in fancy's ear, as we read, on one stately monument erected here, of "James Primrose, tanner, Convener of the Seven Incorporated Trades," who died on the 17th of December, 1838, aged four score and four years. The deceased gentleman was in his early prime when Burns was made a freeman of the town, and while he was born far enough back to see the old Trade system in all its glory, he lived long enough to witness its decline, fall, and extinction, the final stroke being given to it four years prior to the worthy Convener's own demise. His spouse, Isabella Cuthbertson, and nine of their offspring are also named upon the monument, including Margaret, who died at 23; James, at 34; Robert, a currier, died 29th Oct. 1847, at 60, and William, a tanner, died 2d January 1851, at 58; also the spouse of the latter, Sarah Martin. Two table-stones in front bear the names of other members of the family; and a third stone of the same form situated near the Duchra monument is dedicated to Samuel Primrose, died 1st April, 1828, aged 70, who like his brother James had the honour of being Convener of the Crafts; in which capacity he presided at a great festive gathering when the Trades Hall was opened 4th June, 1806. His wife Margaret Gordon, and other relatives, including their son, Peter Primrose, writer, a gentleman of poetical fancy and literary taste, who died 23d December, 1826, aged 30, are also named in the inscription.

Below a venerable table-stone lies Charles Telfair, the first Deacon of the Tailors of whom we have yet had trace; but many more who bore similar rank in the same craft have worn their last suit when mouldering to dust in other portions of the burial-ground. When Deacon Telfair plied needle and thread, the tradesmen over whom he bore rule numbered about 86, of whom 46 were freemen, the others being journeymen and apprentices. He died 19th March 1759, at the advanced age of 87. His wife, Isobel Allan, is also named in the inscription.

On another altar-stone, westward, appears the name of Kinloch Winlaw, squareman, who attained to still higher rank as a craftsman, he having been Convener of all the Seven Trades, in which capacity he led them forth, on 4th June 1802, when they numbered about 750 members in the aggregate, to compete for the Silver Gun. Three infant children—Samuel, George, and Elizabeth—born to him by his spouse, Agnes Corson, are named upon the inscription; also Sarah, of whom it is said "her dutiful affection to her parents greatly endeared her to all her friends;" but it does not record the death of the parent pair.

The tombstone of yet another respected chief of the Craftsmen remains to be noticed—Convener Hugh M'Naught, died 31st October 1814, aged 62. He lies below an adjoining tabular monument, which also commemorates Elizabeth Heuchan, his spouse; their son John, a surgeon, died 20th February 1808, aged 28; another son John, died 5th October 1820, aged 40; Margaret, their daughter; and her husband, William Coltart, originally a millwright and afterwards manager of the Dumfries Gas-works, a man of intelligence and worth, died 13th October 1865, aged 83.

A humble table-stone near by unfolds a wonderful tale of wedded life, lasting over three score years and ten, yet as happy as it was protracted. We rather think that if all the burial-grounds of Scotland were searched through no parallel to the case recorded in these lines would be forthcoming :

"In memory of Francis Mitchell, late Deacon of the Incorporation of Shoemakers, who died 19th September, 1801, aged 89 years. Also Agnes Thomson, his spouse, who died 31st July, 1801, aged 85 years. They lived a Christian and happie life together in a married state 70 years, the whole of which was marked with true piety and Christian fortitude well worthy of imitation."

Vainly we regret that little more is known of this venerable pair and their unprecedented lease of connubial felicity than these lines disclose. The husband, who was a three-year-old boy when the Jacobites threatened Dumfries in the '15, must have been fourteen years a Benedict when the Pretender occupied it in the '45, and he must then have been a man of means, as he was able to contribute £1 4s 6d to the Jacobite levy; while at the latter date the lady must have been still in the blush of early womanhood, with more than half a century of wedded life and love casting its sunshine before. Possibly enough the young hero of the tablet was her father's apprentice, residing as such in the same house, with frequent opportunities of wooing the daughter, and ready to ask for her fair hand as soon as he had served out his time; then receiving with her the freemanship to which he was entitled by having a freeman for his father-in-law; next beginning business for himself; and eventually becoming the respected Deacon of his craft, with the superadded dignity of thereby getting a seat at the Town Council board. Whatever his antecedents were, he reached an honourable position—due very much, we can conceive, to the virtues of his spouse, who, by rendering his home-life comfortable, enabled him better to battle with outside cares. Did they, we wonder, keep their Silver Wedding in 1756 or their Golden Wedding after the lapse of other five-and-twenty years? In a beautiful modern poem, entitled "The Diamond Wedding,"* the authoress makes the married pair of her fanciful tale celebrate under that title the sixtieth anniversary of their marriage. She durst not, with all the poetical license that is allowable, extend the connubial period over more than three-score years; but, as one of the romances of real life with which our local annals abound, here we find husband and wife dwelling together, and that happily, for seventy years! Francis Mitchell and his "Spouse Nancy" would doubtless have their uphill difficulties, requiring the exercise of the "Christian fortitude" mentioned in the epitaph; and we can easily conceive them, when getting frail with age, realising the fine sentiment of the song which represents the "auld gudewife" saying to her still uxorious partner,

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* By Mrs Newton Crosland. London: Houlston & Sons. 1871.

> "John Anderson, my jo, John,
> We've clamb the hill together,
> And mony happy days, John,
> We've had wi' ane anither.
> Noo we maun toddle doun, John,
> And hand in hand we'll go;
> But we'll sleep together at the foot,
> John Anderson, my jo!"

James Mitchell, a son of the venerable couple, died 1817, aged 51; and Elizabeth Dingwall, his wife, are also named in the inscription.

Near the above, we find a diminutive headstone, of date 1702, that is quite a curiosity in its way. Throughout the entire grounds there is no more grotesque sculpture-work than that with which it is adorned, representing as it does a chubby-faced, woe-begone cherub, with wings springing from its sonsie neck, and having another pair curving downwards, so as to enclose a sand-glass, also on the wing; while below there is a nondescript image—a sort of embryo angel, scarcely half-developed; and, by way of supporters, a doll-like figure stands on each side, looking very doleful indeed. But as the grief expressed by the rueful group was in all likelihood sincerely felt by the widow who raised the stone, we check the tendency to smile as we read the antique lettering which tells that "the corps of William Murhead, gunsmith, burgess of lenrick, who died 1702, aged 31, lyeth" below, and that the stone is a tribute to him from "Isobel Lukup his spus."*

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* May 27, 1703.—"The Session granted libertie to Isobel Lukoup, relict of the deceast William Muirhead, smith in Bridge-end, to erect a gravestone at the head of her husband's grave; Deacon Johnstoun, within whose burial-place he lyes, consenting to the same."—*Kirk Session Minutes.*

The name Isabella Carruthers, which we notice on a neighbouring headstone, recalls that of her accomplished brother, Dr. Robert Carruthers, well known in connection with the *Inverness Courier* and numerous able literary productions. She died 5th May, 1870, aged 73. Her husband, Thomas M'Noe, hosier, a worthy man, predeceased her 21st March, 1851, aged 62. The stone erected to their memory bears also the name of his first wife, Mary M'Caa ; the names of four of their children and three of Mr. M'Noe's grandchildren—the offspring of Mr. Cumming, clothier, all of whom died young.

On a plain simple stone we read words of consolation, hope, and faith, supposed to be addressed by Ann Burns, the tenant of the tomb below, to her husband, Sergeant James Wemyss, of the 6th Dragoons.

"Grieve not for me, my sand is run,
The Lord has called, his will be done ;
When Christ appears I shall arise
Unto that life that never dies."

Sergeant Wemyss, who outlived his wife twelve years, died 7th October 1832, aged 52 ; and of him it is said in the inscription : "He was an affectionate husband, a kind and sincere friend, and was much respected by all who knew him."

The name of Mein appears frequently in the Burgh records, chiefly with reference to building operations. Andrew Mein was one of the contractors for erecting the New Church in 1724 ; while William Mein, mason, probably his father, is mentioned in the Kirk Session Minutes as applying for a grave-plot in St. Michael's on 24th March, 1709. His petition sets forth that he had discovered a suitable spot of ground "adjacent to John Smith, late Dean, his buriall place, belonging to no one," but occupied by a great root of a tree which he was willing to dig out, if his request were complied with. His petition was answered in the affirmative, the Session granting Mr Mein and his heirs "full power to break up and bury in the said buriall-place as others do in the churchyard, and to erect two gravestones on the same at his pleasure." A stone stands near the south-west corner which commemorates William Mein, landwaiter (in all likelihood a descendant of the petitioner), who died 12th August, 1776, aged 69, his wife Helen Bell, George their son, who died at the age of 62; Nathaniel Locke, who married Isobel, daughter of William Mein, died at 82, Helen their daughter died at 73, and other relatives. A flat slab northward commemorates David Mien, slater, died 11th August, 1770, aged 65; his spouse Elizabeth, with other members of the family. It may be proper to notice here that in a different section, near the entrance to the Cemetery, appears a diminutive headstone, inscribed with the name of "William Mein, mason, late Deacon of the Squaremen," died 19th February, 1745, aged 87, whose remains, it may be assumed, lie where the "great root" grew that is above referred to.

Near the same south-west corner the memory of Charles Hogg, nurseryman at Hillowton, and of his wife Mary Grindall, is kept from decay by a neat erection; he died at the ripe age of 78.

On a tombstone which commemorates John Dinwiddie cabinetmaker, died 2d March, 1826, aged 50, and his wife Janet Hunter, appears also the name of Sarah Dickson, with the intimation that she was "wife of James Dinwiddie, teacher of English in Dumfries upwards of fifty-two years." Whether the venerable dominie when let loose from the school of life to enter on the long vacation of the grave found a resting-place beside his spouse is not recorded. She died 5th May, 1803, aged 73.

A stately monument commemorates Robert Wright, a respectable tradesman, whose occupation, that of providing the "staff of life," sounds strangely in this region of the dead. He died 13th August 1822, aged 38. His daughter Nicholas, wife of Charles Wake, who died at Birmingham 12th September 1866, aged 53; and his son Robert, who died at the same place three days afterwards, aged 48, are also mentioned in the inscription. A table stone within the same enclosure bears the names of several relatives of Mr. Wright through his wife, Margaret Richardson: John Howat, died April 4th

1791, aged 67, one of the old wig-makers who flourished at a time when it was the fashion for men as well as the softer sex to make themselves profusely hirsute by means of other people's hair; Agnes, his spouse; Wellwood Maxwell, William Laidlaw, James Aitken, and Winnifred, young children of John Richardson; also Nicholas and John, children of Robert Wright, baker; the above John Richardson, died 11th November 1835, and his spouse, Nicholas, daughter of the wig-maker, John Howat.

The most noted of the Richardson family, some members of which lie in another section of the ground, was the one just mentioned, John Richardson. For nearly forty years he held the post of principal sheriff-officer in Dumfriesshire. Naturally shrewd, sagacious, and self-reliant, he was a man of much general intelligence; and though to a great extent self-educated, he was well acquainted with the forms of Scottish law, and would have made a capital legal agent had he been trained in that capacity. With matters of pedigree relating to our old County families he was quite conversant; his genealogical lore embracing also the generations with which he was contemporary—high and low, rich and poor. One of his greatest professional achievements was the apprehension of David Haggart, who, some months after he had murdered the Dumfries prison turnkey Morine, was captured by Mr. Richardson in the north of Ireland, and identified by him through all the ingenious disguises of dress, manner, and language which the guilty fugitive had assumed. "Of evil-doers," says Mr. M‘Diarmid when noticing Mr. Richardson's death in the *Courier*, "he was by far the greatest terror that has existed in Dumfries in our day; his powers of observation were so acute, and his memory so tenacious, that it was often said of him that he never saw a face, even for a moment, that he could not distinctly recognise again. Perhaps no man that ever existed possessed in greater perfection the talent—for it is one—of diving into character under every disguise; and such were his industry in preventing crime, and quick-sightedness in ensuring its detection that, after the final apprehension of

Haggart and dispersion of the accomplished gang that so long infested our fairs and markets, it became a common saying among the whole thieving and thimble-rig tribe, 'We'll gang nae mair to yon town'—of itself a high, though left-handed, compliment to the memory of our townsman.' The same genial writer states that John Richardson "had a heart as well as head," there being experienced by him a constant struggle "between a stern sense of duty and something akin to woman's softness." He was withal a good talker, a hearty convivialist, who "many a time and oft set the table in a roar." Not only was the deceased a famous practical enforcer of "The Hue and Cry:" he was also an adept in the art whose cry is "Going, going, gone;" and for a long period he was recognised as the most dexterous auctioneer throughout the south of Scotland. "For weeks before Whitsunday and Martinmas," says the *Courier*, "and at other periods, his hands were constantly full of work; and, considering the fatigue he occasionally underwent, the peculiarity of his temperament, and the freedom of his habits, it is to us matter of astonishment that he should have reached the ripe age of 67 years. From long experience, he knew the value of almost every article of furniture, from a porringer up to a fashionable mirror, and possessed such a flow of animal spirits, intermingled with sallies of wit and humour, that he made the most saturnine smile or laugh in spite of themselves. Apart from ordinary sales, roups of bankrupt and farm stock, the deceased sold in his day hundreds of properties and fair estates, and our opinion is that many millions of money were turned over from first to last by the instrumentality of his sand-glass and hammer. It was Mr. Richardson who managed the sale of the effects of the late Mrs. Burns; on that occasion he was in excellent spirits, and, on sight of various articles that stirred his memory, introduced many striking anecdotes; nor shall we readily forget his expression of countenance when, after a keen competition, the Poet's eight-day clock was assigned to our friend Mr. Armour, he ejaculated '*Only forty pounds!*'"

Behind the Wright monument there is a table-stone commemorating Robert Richardson, farmer, Nether Dargavel, died 22d November 1802, aged 58; his son David, who occupied the same farm, died 26th March 1852, aged 85; and the spouse of the latter, Martha Turnbull.

Westward a little there are two tombstones, one raised in memory of Jane M'Clure, wife of John Richardson, shoemaker, died 4th July 1846, aged 38, and three of their infant children; two young sailor sons, both lost at sea, being named on the other: William, who perished in the spring of 1859, and Robert, two years afterwards. On a neat headstone southward we find trace of a related family, that of William Ronald, baker, died 24th November 1858, aged 64; his wife, Winifred Richardson, with two infant children and their son William, are also named in the inscription. The latter, when captain of the Lord Althorpe, also fell a victim to the remorseless waves in 1859, at the age of 32. In view of such catastrophes, the Christian mourner can say to the devouring deep:

> "To thee the love of woman hath gone down;
> Dark flow thy tides o'er manhood's noble head,
> O'er youth's bright locks and beauty's flowery crown!
> Yet must thou hear a voice—"Restore the dead!
> Earth shall reclaim her precious things from thee!
> Restore the dead, thou Sea!"

On the other side of the Ronald monument we read of William Richardson, shoemaker, "an affectionate father and generous friend," died 28th February 1838, aged 65; of his spouse, Sarah Kerr, "in life respected and in death regretted;" of their young daughter, Sarah; and of their son, William Richardson, M.D., died at Berbice 15th March, 1850, aged 55.

It was on the 21st of December 1745 that Prince Charles, commonly called the Pretender, paid that memorable visit to Dumfries, on his forlorn return from Derby, which has already been referred to in these pages. He could still number many gallant followers; but his retinue, it appears, did not include a valet or other attendant capable of shaving the royal visage. "Does this Whig Burgh boast of having a barber?" the Prince asked, or is supposed to have asked, as, travelstained and weary, he sat in Mr. Richard Lowthian's house, the precise apartment being what is now No. 7 of the Commercial Hotel. The question led to an inquiry, the result of which was that Mr. John Gas, wig-maker and shaver, who occupied a shop in the leading thoroughfare, was brought to the Prince's residence, that he might operate with razor and soap on the beard of his Royal Highness. What the honest barber's feelings were whilst thus, in a more than ordinary way, brought face to face with "Bonnie Charlie," and while the head for which the Government soon afterwards offered £30,000 was placed in his temporary keeping, is not recorded; nor are we told whether the Prince paid him for his services with money, or simply recognised them with thanks; but this we know, that Mr. Gas was ever after fond of relating this remarkable episode in his professional history, and used to affirm, by way of climax, that he had done what no other man dared to do, had "taken Prince Charlie by the nose." The hero of this feat was in other respects a remarkable character. For upwards of half a century he plied his double vocation in Dumfries, during most of which period his little shop was a favourite resort of the better class of burgesses and the neighbouring gentry, by whom he was recognised as a sort of oracle, on account of his conversational powers and the seemingly inexhaustible fund of legend and anecdote which he could at all times draw upon.

The worthy barber is made to figure conspicuously in John Mayne's famous poem, "The Siller Gun," which describes the shooting for King James's token by the Trades on the 4th of June, 1777. He is represented as one of the admiring onlookers, and as an authority who was appealed to when information was needed about the chiefs of the pageant in past and present times.

"Amang the crowd was Johny Gas,
Kend thro' the town by lad and lass;
Revered aboon the common class,
Up late and air;
John had seen saxty simmers pass,
A barber there.

The chronicle o' former years,
At him ilk ane some question speers;
But when they spoke of auld forebears
Now dead and gane,
John only answered wi' his tears,
Or made a maen."

"His simplicity of manners," says Mr. Mayne, who knew him well, "sincere piety, and undeviating integrity during a long, industrious, and active life, excited universal esteem and respect; while his vivid recollection of past events, together with the peculiar naiveté and shrewdness of his remarks, with a certain eccentricity of character, made his conversation interesting as well as highly entertaining."* John Gas lived to be nearly ninety years of age; and when his little cabin in High Street lost its *genius loci*, his remains were laid in a much smaller tenement, the tomb by which we now stand, and which is covered by an altar-stone bearing various names, as follow: First, that of his spouse Janet, died 17th March 1761, aged 39; then that of the worthy wig-maker himself, died 10th March 1811, "in the 90 year of his age;" two of their sons, William and John, who died young, are next mentioned; then their grandson, James Hope, who followed his grandfather's business, with this difference, that wig-making having become antiquated, he was termed "hair-dresser and perfumer," died 23d August 1828, aged 53; and finally, the wife of the latter, Mary Drummond. An adjoining table-stone commemorates Andrew M'Lellan, flax-dresser, died 21st January 1809, aged 37; Janet Hope, his wife; and Janet Ballantine, their niece, died 13th March 1847, aged 40.

On one of two family table-stones we read the name of John M'Kie, who occupied a good position as a bookseller and was deservedly much esteemed: he was for several years also Treasurer of the Burgh. He died 31st December 1841, aged 35; the inscription further stating that "in life he was highly respected, and his death is deeply regretted." John Frood, tailor, his maternal grandfather, died 10th May 1812, aged 59. His name upon the record is followed by that of his spouse, Janet Grierson; the rest of the death-list being as follows: William, their son, who died at 21; John, another son, and Ann, a granddaughter, who died in childhood; Nathaniel M'Kie, tailor, died 30th November 1843, aged 66; his wife Agnes, daughter of John Frood; their sons, James, a clerk, died 6th January 1830, aged 19; and David, a draper, died 31st of October 1844, aged 33.

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* John was a pedestrian in his time, and thought very little of a journey to Edinburgh in one day—a distance of not less than seventy miles. Cold, hot, wet or dry, he seldom wore a hat in his visits to his customers; and such was the force of habit that, being sent for to Moffat upon particular business, he walked thither, a journey of twenty-four miles, bareheaded. When asked by a gentleman what had become of his hat, "Hat, hat, sir?" said John, "'pon my word, sir, I have forgot it!"—*Note to Siller Gun.*

Handsome monumental erections appear also in this section in honour of the following:—Robert Affleck, mason, died 16th December 1839, aged 70; his spouse, Helen Thomson; their son, Robert, a cabinetmaker, died 11th December 1823, aged 21. John Hobbs Crocket, plasterer, died 27th January 1863, aged 54. Isabella Bennet Lennox, wife of George Dunbar, junior, died 5th May, 1870, aged 35. John Herries, joiner, Dumfries, died 9th August, 1840, aged 65; Janet Hunter, his spouse, with their offspring, Agnes died at 24, Janet at 17, two others who were cut off in childhood, and Robert, also a joiner and Dean of Guild, died 26th August 1866, aged 58, with three of his youthful children. James Hutchinson, architect, died 16th May 1801, aged 50; and his wife, Grace Milroy. Intermingled with these, stones of a simpler form are seen, commemorating James Kerr, auctioneer, died of cholera, when it was raging in Dumfries, 30th September 1832, with his spouse, Janet Smith; Robert Anderson, surveyor of taxes, died 2d September 1825, with Mary Wallace, his wife, and John, their son, died at Rio de Janeiro, 15th May 1842, aged 53; Gilbert Paterson, died 21st April 1774, aged 56, with his wife, Marjory Malcolm (sister, probably, of Archibald Malcolm, Town-Clerk); Helen Dinwiddie, wife of James Wightman, farmer, died 27th September, 1832, aged 51; two John Huttons, father and son, the former died 12th February 1807, aged 66, the latter 7th October 1818, aged 47; John Borland, mason, died 6th November 1814, aged 52, with his two wives, Margaret M'Kaig and Sarah Napier.

To Agnes M'Burnie, relict of James Grierson of Dalgoner; Thomas Grierson of Larbreck, their son, died 8th May, 1774, aged 65; and the spouse of the latter, Elizabeth Ward, a table tombstone near the Hannahfield monument is devoted, which is neighboured by another bearing the name of their son, Thomas, died 14th May, 1798, aged 27. The deceased were of the same family as the Griersons of Lag, their common ancestor having been Gilbert, second son of the Celtic thane Malcolm Dominus de Macgregor, who about five hundred years ago settled in Dumfriesshire.

An adjacent altar-stone bears the following inscription:—

> "Here lyes the body of Sarah Crockat, daughter of the Rev. Mr. John Crockat, late minister of the Gospel at Partoun, and Mary Tod, his spouse, who departed this life the 29th day of June, in the year MDCCLXI., age xii. years and viii. days. Fond of knowledge, and possessed of it above her years. To patient piety, for which she was remarkable, and a sense of religion uncommon at her age, she joined a sweetness of temper, and a greatness of soul which justly rendered her the delight of her acquaintance and the comfort of her mother."

CHAPTER V.

BETWEEN THE FOOTPATH AND THE CHURCH.

CROSSING the footpath, we find about sixty tombstones of various kinds between it and the Church, several of which merit a brief notice. Here, as in other parts of the ground, we meet with the words wig-maker, a trade which is as defunct in Dumfries as the many men who pursued it ninety years ago. One of these ancient peruquiers, David Douglas by name, lies buried in a sheltered nook south of the Steeple tower, died in May, 1766, aged 59; also his spouse and son, Alexander Douglas, merchant, died 15th December, 1797, aged 55. Thomas Watson, stone-cutter, who, like his surviving son of the same name and trade, has left his masonic mark on many of the surrounding monuments, wedded the merchant's daughter, and he occupies the next layer, the stone above shewing that he died on the 18th of February 1832, in his 55th year, and that "his relict" departed this life on the 19th of April 1851, when on the verge of 80 years. The father of Mrs. Watson, in addition to his other business, kept a hostelrie in High Street, which Burns used to visit both as a customer and professionally, though it never became such a favourite "howff" with him as the Globe. Mrs. Watson, who distinctly remembered Burns, used to tell that on one memorable occasion the poet came to the house, on gauging business bent, just after she and the servant had been making potato starch, then an interdicted trade, in the kitchen. Burns could not help seeing the illicit article, as it lay exposed in an ashet on the window-sill; and having learned what it was, he, with a warning shake of his head, said, "Lassie, ye sin and fear not: take this out of my sight!"

Four children of the deceased Thomas Watson are also named on the monument: Andrew, an infant; Margaret, wife of James Robison, died at Newark, 26th March, 1840, aged 33; Alexander, a mason, died at Welshpool, in Wales, 31st

March, 1854, aged 49; and Mary, his eldest daughter, died 5th July, 1868, aged 67. An adjoining headstone commemorates James Robison and Jessie, children of Thomas Watson, both of whom died in their third year.

On a neighbouring headstone appear the names of Charles Little, died 7th March 1839, aged 63; and of several of his children, including Andrew, who died when 19 at Chusan, and Robert, who died when 34 at Umballa.

With another industrial occupation, hat-making, which once flourished in Dumfries, but is now almost extinct, the name of Balieff was closely identified; and the family so called were among the first to rally round John Wesley when the founder of Methodism made a raid upon the Presbyterianism of the district in 1788. At the other side of the steeple, a flat slab bears in remembrance John Balieff, first of the name, died 20th February, 1800, aged 67, and his two wives, Elizabeth Mackill and Dorothea Shirley. This stone is overlooked by a neat little obelisk, which records the death and recounts the virtues of his son Joseph, who died of cholera when that epidemic first visited the town.

> "He was born (we are told) 14th April 1772; and being in early age brought to a knowledge of the truth, his subsequent life evinced the reality of his conversion to God, his integrity and uprightness commanding the esteem of all with whom he was connected. After a life of devotion to God and active benevolence to men, he suddenly finished his course, and exchanged mortality for eternal life, on the 2d of October 1832, in the 61st year of his age. Go, Reader, and ponder on the value of that faith in Christ which, whilst it deprives death of its sting and the grave of its victory, administers patience and comfort to the bereaved and afflicted."

This inscription is on the east side. His wife Margaret M'Millan died 23d August, 1855, aged 76, is named on the south side. An inscription on the north side commemorates some branches of the parent stem, including Margaret Balieff, wife of R. J. Minsher, who died at 27; Joanna, at 21; Harriet Hope, at 18; Joseph, drowned off New York when sailing for America November 21st, 1836, aged 17; and Charlotte, wife of Charles D. Porteous, died 10th March, 1842, aged 38. Of these it is stated:

"Their dust and ruins that remain
Are precious in our eyes.
Those ruins shall be built again,
And all that dust shall rise."

The west side bears the name of Mary Irving, spouse of John Balieff, the latter for many years a useful citizen and magistrate of Dumfries, but now residing in Manchester, where his wife died 15th February, 1857, aged 35.

No glovemaking is now carried on in Dumfries, but for a long while it formed one of our staple industries, those who wrought at it joining with the Skinners to form a distinct corporation. John Woodmass, the last of the old glovers, or gauntlers as they were often called, and at one time Deacon of his Craft, lies in this section of the Cemetery beneath a massive altar-stone, died 4th March 1839, aged 65. His spouse, Jean Watt; Mary Graham and Mary Thomson, wives of Hugh Woodmass; Nicholas, his daughter, wife of Henry Melbourne, grain-dealer, with other relatives, are also named upon the monument.

Alexander Lookup, skinner, once Convener of the Trades, and belonging to a family that was long honourably associated with the Guilds of the Burgh, lies buried below a table-stone adjoining. Obiit 1st April 1808, aged 52. Nicholas Fullerton, his wife, is named in the inscription; also several members of their family, including two sea captains, James of the Lancaster and Thomas of the China, the former dying 4th September 1829, aged 33, the latter 18th February 1843, aged 49.

Of at least four others whose "homes were on the deep" memorials appear in this section, though it did not afford a haven of rest to them all. On a tabular stone raised in memory of William Sellars, writer, died 17th June 1787, aged 28, we find names of a related family—those of John Aitken, died 8th December 1848, aged 53; his spouse, Jessie Caird; and their son George, commander of the steamer Silloth, died 9th March 1858, aged 38. A small headstone rises in memory of Captain John Rodick, "drowned near Bic Island, River St. Lawrence, 18th October 1870, by the wreck of the brig Thetis of Maryport, in the 60th year of his age, and interred at Rimouski." The few survivors of the Latin classes taught in our Academy fifty years ago by the late Rector Harkness will remember the deceased as a dux among the scholars, and as no less amiable than accomplished. Seas between them and him have rolled broad during the intervening period; and, a victim of the devouring deep, he lies far away from the braes where, as "boys together," they "pu'd the gowans fine," in the Auld Lang Syne of 1825.

Another headstone bears an interesting record, commemorating as it does John Wright, stay-maker, died 20th October 1796, aged 42; Jane M'Lachlan, his spouse, died 16th November 1836, aged 76, of whom it is stated "she faithfully discharged the duties of matron to the Infirmary upwards of 31 years;" and several of their children, among others James, surgeon of the Lady Melville, East Indiaman, who died at sea; and John, a member of the Royal College of Surgeons, London, and assistant surgeon of the Cabala, East Indiaman, who likewise breathed his last at sea, 7th March 1817, aged 50. Isabella Lawson, mother-in-law to John Wright, is also named in the inscription, with the intimation that she officiated ten years as matron of the Infirmary, her death taking place 9th June 1795, when she was 69: as the Dumfries and Galloway Royal Infirmary was first opened for patients at the close of 1778, Isabella Lawson would probably be its first matron. The term stay-maker sounds strange as applied to a man, that occupation being usually assigned to the gentle sex. This was not the case, however, when John Wright flourished, stay-making being at that period a branch of tailoring that was guarded with as much jealousy as any other portion of the craft. About ninety years ago one Elizabeth Knox, residenter, "though noways free with the trade," or having any title "to exercise that kind of business," was detected in the very act of patching up an old pair of stays, and fined 6s 8d sterling for "the transgression" the stays being detained till the money was forthcoming.*

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* Minutes of Tailors' Incorporation, as quoted in *History of Dumfries*, second edition, p. 622.

Jean Hay M'Cornock, granddaughter of the doughty anti-Union Provost Johnston, is commemorated by an altar-stone, died 5th May 1804, aged 41. Her father was Hugh M'Cornock of Clauchrie, and her mother Margaret Johnston, both of whom lie beside the Provost in a spot already visited, together with other members of the family. Another table stone in this section rises in memory of William M'Cornock, writer, died 12th May 1769, age not given; Lilias, his sister, who died at 86; and Margaret Gowan, died at 36, the spouse of Edward Oliver, mariner, whose brother Alexander was married to Margaret, daughter of the above Hugh M'Cornock.

Within a chain-protected plot lie several members of a respected family closely related to the Gordons of Earlston. The table monument erected to their memory tells of Gilbert Gordon of Halleaths, died 21st May 1790, aged 60; his spouse, Margaret Stewart; their daughter, Catherine Stewart, died 15th July 1822, aged 52; and their "last surviving daughter," Johanna Mounsey, who had reached the venerable age of 81, when she died at Lincluden, 6th May 1854.

On a tombstone which commemorates Robert Anderson, painter and glazier, who died 24th May, 1792, aged 80, there is an inscription which professes to be no epitaph, and is yet a very happy effort in that line:

"They may make epitaphs who can,
I say here lyes an honest man."

The couplet is popularly attributed to Burns.

To the memory of Jean Broom Wood, first wife of Alexander Stuart, clothier, Dean of Guild, a very handsome monument is devoted; which bears in remembrance also three of their children, Andrew, who died when young, Alexander, at the age of 23, and John James, at the age of 33.

Near by an altar-stone rises in memory of William Howat, mason, died 8th June 1801, aged 79; Mary Broom, his spouse; Andrew, their son, died 24th December 1804, aged 29; also of a worthy veteran, John Gornal, long of the 1st Royal Dragoons, died 9th September 1864, aged 77; of John

Fulton, his son-in-law, sergeant in the 2d Battalion of 60th Rifles and Scottish Borderers Militia, died 3d September 1869, aged 44; and of Sergeant Fulton's wife, Agnes.

On other stones of a similar form we read of Robert Mitchell, shoemaker, died 30th April 1854, aged 65, with Margaret Dalgliesh, his spouse; of Alexander Roxburgh, mason, died 4th December 1816, aged 82, with Catherine Hodge, his spouse, and several relations; of John Harris, whitesmith, died 15th June 1821, age not mentioned, with Agnes Stott, his spouse, and several children. On a neat upright stone we find the names of Joseph Wilson, shoemaker, died 21st July 1867, aged 73, three of his offspring, who died young; and those of two others, Agnes, died at 34, and Jane at 44. Another of a similar kind commemorates Agnes Millar, wife of Robert Wood, flesher, died 15th January 1874, aged 42, and two of their children; while on other headstones we read of John Hogg, cooper, died 12th February 1825, aged 65, Marion Martin, his spouse, and several of their offspring; of George Guthrie, ship-carpenter, died 20th March 1793, aged 73, Margaret Lawson, his wife, and several of their children.

An antique altar-stone commemorates William Irvine, merchant, died 2d June 1718, aged 62; his spouse, Agnes Wells; and their daughter, who died at the age of 69. Stones of similar type rise in memory of other merchants: Adam Clark, died 14th March 1816, aged 38; James Dalgleish died 9th January 1812, aged 59, with Janet Gourlay, his spouse, and several youthful children; one near the gate bearing the names of John Smith, innkeeper, died 20th May 1781, aged 39, that of his wife, Margaret Wilkie (a very uncommon name in the district), and several of their descendants.

Some very old slabs are visible here that have been long so preyed upon by neglect that their inscriptions have vanished. Such an oblivious fate seems destined ere long to overtake the memorial of "William Laury of Barnsoul, who departed this life upon the 5th day of August, 1742, and of his age 62 years." With some difficulty we find out that he was "Town Clerk of Dumfries"—a gentleman of high position, whose business it was to make up public records; and yet the record of his own name and death is getting dim, and may soon disappear. The names of his spouse, Barbara Fingas, and of their daughter Isobel, are barely traceable on the stone, which at one time told of other children also regarding whom it can now say nothing.

To John Dalyell of Fairgirth, died 4th January 1764, aged 72, a very stately Grecian structure is devoted. Mary, wife of Thomas Robinson, china merchant, Dumfries, died 29th November 1843, aged 48, with two of her children—John, who died at 20, and Mary at 29—are also named upon the monument.

Just behind the above rises an altar-stone in memory of John Muncie, once Chief of the Incorporated Craftsmen, who died 7th November 1792, aged 41. On a similar stone near by we notice the name of another Trade official—George Smith, Deacon of the Tailors, died 9th October 1823, aged 56; the inscription mentioning also his wife, Sarah Weir; two of their infant children; her father, John Weir, died 19th October 1800; his spouse, Mary Johnstone; and their son, James Weir, merchant, died 8th January 1793, aged 32. Yet another Deacon of the same Craft, George Rae, lies below a slab near the Watsons' monument, with his wife, Janet Dickson: he died 23d December 1783, aged 68. A similar slab commemorates James Ramsay, tailor, died 21st October 1823, aged 43.

"The graves of a household" are marked by a neat headstone, on which its members are named, the offspring of John Brown of Corrielaw, died 9th June 1861, aged 75, and his spouse, Helen Gordon; both of whom are also commemorated by the monument.

Unbound, but in due time to be done up anew, lies the body of Thomas Johnston, bookbinder, above which his acquaintances have raised a neat headstone, "as a tribute of respect to his memory;" date of death 17th March 1833, age 27. The subjoined lines appear as part of the inscription:

"Escaped the gloom of mortal life, a soul
Here leaves its mouldering tenement of clay;
Safe where no cares their whelming billows roll,
No doubts bewilder, and no hopes betray."

Near the entrance gate a very neat Gothic monument rises in memory of "Joseph Gass, Esq.," merchant in and Provost of the Burgh; and while it is a fitting memento of a respected magistrate, his name and public services are commemorated in a still more complimentary style, as the village of Gastown was called after him, on account of his having founded it and done much to foster its growth, and thereby to increase the revenue of the Burgh, on whose ground it was built. He was made Provost in the following year, 1813, and died on the 9th of July 1821, aged 77. The names of Marion Morrison and Elizabeth Anderson, wives of Provost Gass, appear also on the monument.

Andrew Robertson and his son James, who both pursued the old trade of wig-making, are commemorated by a table-stone near the gate: the former died 24th October 1765, aged 69; the latter 28th March 1795, aged 52. The singular name of Frances Hearse appears on the stone, as that of the spouse of the elder Robertson. Margaret Douglas (probably a daughter of David Douglas, wig-maker) is mentioned on it as the wife of the younger one; together with another rare appellation, that of Agnes Oldrini, their eldest daughter, died in London, 19th July 1827, aged 58, "a woman exemplary for her virtues, and beloved by all who knew her."

Close to the entrance gate, a young Nathaniel, James Thomson, draper, died 13th February 1838, at the age of 31, is commemorated by a handsome monument, the epitaph on which reads thus:

"He truly feared God from his youth. His dispositions were open and cheerful, his manners conciliatory, and his unobtrusive piety gave a charm to all his other virtues. He died as he had lived, rich in the hope of a blessed immortality through Jesus Christ his Lord."

The stone also rises in memory of his father, Bailie Robert Thomson, died 23d August 1842, aged 89, and his mother, Mary Smith.

THE MILITARY CORNER.

There is a triangular nook on the left of the entrance gate that is popularly called "The Military Corner," from the circumstance that several army officers were buried there, on ground allotted for the purpose by the Kirk Session. They had visited the town with their respective regiments, and, carried off by disease when at a distance from home, they bivouac peacefully below, in strange but not unfriendly soil; their name, age, and rank being revealed on the surrounding stones.

One of the soldiers who here lie "taking their rest" was Captain Henry Stearop of "Her Majesty's Edinburgh Regiment," who "died when in command at this place," 3d April 1765, aged 57 years; and who, we are further told, "was a soldier from his birth, and was in the most active service during the course of the two last wars. He was ever a faithful servant to his King and country." Another of them was a youthful Celt, Ensign Duncan Campbell, of the 72d Highland Regiment, summoned away—on the 20th November 1807—"in life's morning march, when his bosom was young," before he had seen twenty summers. Another was Lieutenant John Welton, of the 28th Foot Regiment, also called away to join the countless legions of the dead, long before he reached his prime, on the 8th of February 1808. Further north a little, and rather beyond the nook, lies John Clarke Chambers, Lieutenant of the Norfolk Fencible Light Dragoons, with a neat stone placed over him, as "the last but deserved tribute" of his brother officers. The deceased, who was of Wood-dawling, Norfolkshire, died on the 28th of November 1796.

One of the tombstones of this group bears an inscription which must be given at length, as thereby hangs a curious tale. The words are as follows:

"In memory of William Peck, Esquire, late Surgeon of the King's Own or 4th Regiment of Foot, a man of amiable character and good dispositions, eminent and useful in his profession. He deceas'd at Dumfries the 11th day of January 1769, in the 52nd year of his age. This monument is erected by Robert Riddick, Esq. of Corbeton, as a testimony of friendship, and in gratitude for valuable professional services."

The services here acknowledged were rendered to Mrs Riddick. Afflicted with a dangerous malady in one of her lower limbs, she came from Corbeton to Dumfries for the purpose of getting medical attendance. "Physicians' aid," as supplied by the local doctors, "proved vain;" and when the lady's disease had reached a very critical stage she dreamed that she obtained deliverance from it through the instrumentality of a stranger, who saved her life by cutting off her leg. So impressed was Mrs Riddick with her night vision that she related it to her husband, describing to him at the same time the appearance of the man who had performed the operation, and expressing her belief that her dream would some day be literally fulfilled. Several weeks afterwards, The King's Own Regiment entered Dumfries, and as it passed along the streets the invalid lady recognised in the person of Mr William Peck the surgeon of her wonderful dream. He was at once applied to, and in accordance with those "good dispositions" attributed to him on the tombstone, he attended Mrs Riddick, and she was soon able to return home quite restored to health, but *minus* the diseased member, which he had skilfully amputated. Years elapsed, and Mr Peck, while still serving with his regiment in another part of the country, fell sick, and thinking that change of air might do him good, he paid a visit to his old friends, the Riddicks. Death was in the cup, however; and when his remains were laid in "The Military Corner" of St. Michael's, the grateful Laird of Corbeton erected this monument to his memory.

CHAPTER VI.

ALONG THE NORTHERN WALL.

IN proceeding along the northern boundary, we observe numerous high-class monuments, some few of which have been erected in honour of distinguished men. The first one next the gate bears the illustrious name of Sir Andrew Halliday. The true story of his life, how from being a poor herd boy in Dryfesdale he obtained European fame as a physician, became the confidential adviser of kings, and a benefactor to men of all ranks, reads like a romance. He claimed as his progenitor the patriot warrior Thomas Halliday, nephew of Sir William Wallace ; and the knightly honours which he won by his worth were quite in keeping with his descent from Wallace's "sister's son so dear." It was on the advice of Sir Andrew Halliday that the immense fortune left by Dr. James Crichton of Friars' Carse, "£100,000, for beneficial purposes," was applied in building the Crichton Royal Institution for the treatment of the insane, and for a short period he officiated as its first medical superintendent. The stone, a stately one, of Grecian design, bears the following inscription :

> "Virtute Parta." "Sacred to the memory of Sir Andrew Halliday, K.H., Deputy-Inspector-general of Hospitals, who died at Dumfries on the 6th Septr., 1839, in the 58th year of his age. He was a man of great information, and unbounded benevolence ; was incessantly employed in devising means for ameliorating the condition of his fellow-creatures ; and altogether his life was of the most extensive usefulness. This monument is erected to his memory by a few sincere friends."

In 1759 a rivalry that had long prevailed between the shopocracy and craftsmen of Dumfries rose to a violent pitch. It originated in persistent efforts made by the Merchant class to increase their ruling power at the expense of the Trades. Bailie James Corbet, who favoured the former party, and became their leader in the feud that followed, was chosen chief magistrate, by a "plurality of votes" only, at Michaelmas 1758 ; and on his seeking re-election at the ensuing term the Trade Councillors and the democracy out of doors resolved, if possible, to baulk his ambition, and place their favourite, John Graham of Kinharvie, in the civic chair. When the Council met on Saturday, the 29th of September, to proceed with the election, High Street was occupied by a riotous multitude, the leaders of which broke forcibly into the chamber, expelled the Corbet Councillors before the latter had time to elect their chief, and then, under the turbulent auspices of King Mob, the Deacons and some few Merchant members who sympathised with them were left free to choose Kinharvie as Provost, which they did by acclamation. At dead of night the members of the opposite party held a secret conclave in the George Inn, Southgate Brae, and when far into the Sabbath hours completed the election of Mr. Corbet, which had been so rudely interfered with. A furious collision ensued between the parties when they returned from churching their respective chiefs ; and the punishment, by transportation or otherwise, of the principal rioters rendered this great burghal strife increasingly memorable. This is the incident in our local annals to which reference is made in preceding chapters as the conflict between the Pyets and the Crows—the supporters of Mr. Corbet taking that designation because his name resembled the old term for crow and because a raven figured on his family crest ; while the Graham party were named after the pyet or magpye, on account of its well-known antipathy to the "ebony bird."

These remarks will perhaps cause the visitor to take special interest in the next monument. It is a handsome erection, between the Doric pilasters of which we read that it is dedicated to the memory of the Corbie leader, "James Corbet, Esq., late Provost of this Burgh, who died the 25th of January 1762, aged 53 years." His election, though irregular, was held to be valid by the Court of Session ; and he was again returned as chief magistrate in 1760. The elegiac inscription makes no reference to the events which disturbed his civic reign ; these are properly passed over, and a glowing eulogium finds place in the following terms :

> "Endued with an understanding solid and acute; yet was he distinguished by an unassuming modesty. Honest and benevolent, sedate and good humoured, gentle and obliging: an agreeable and usefull member of society; a warm and steady friend; a husband and father affectionate and tender. In health he maintaind a conduct regular and virtuous; in sickness a behaviour patient and resignd; and in his last moments a fortitude decent and manly."

The next stone bears the name of Bailie William Denholm, died 8th September 1762, aged 67, his spouse, Nicholas Dalyell, their son, Captain William Denholm of the 63d Regiment, died 23d November 1810, aged 77, his spouse, Sarah, and their daughter Catherine, all belonging to a well-known family long resident in Broomrig of Holywood.

Numerous members of another well-known family—the Lawsons of Kelton—are commemorated by two adjoining stones: the list includes Robert Lawson of Knockhornock, died 29th May 1800, aged 72; his wife, Helen Hannah; and their son Robert, died at St. Kitts, aged 24; also, George Lawson of Knockhornock, died at Kelton, 2d February 1870, aged 69; his spouse, Mary; their daughter Margaret; Mary Lawson, spouse of Samuel Millar; Agnes Lawson, who lived to be four score; George Lawson of Kelton, who died two years older, 2d July 1845; his son William, died at Port Louis, Mauritius, 22d February 1845, aged 42; Jean, daughter of George, and wife of William Walker; Helen Hannah, another daughter; Jessie Newall Millar, wife of James Finlay; Janet Lawson; and the husband of the latter, Thomas Haining, who, after long worthily officiating as local clerk of sasines, died at Glencaple, 12th January 1873, aged 76.

We next arrive at a very neat but plain upright tombstone, erected over the dust of a worthy and accomplished gentleman. The words upon it contrast by their severe simplicity with some other epitaphs we have quoted, they merely intimating that the monument is

> "Sacred to the memory of the Rev. William Burnside, D.D., who was admitted Minister of the New Church, Dumfries, June 22d, 1780, translated to St Michael's June 19th, 1794, died January 6th, 1806, aged 55 years."

His spouse, Anne Hutton, died 29th July 1838, aged 79; and five of their offspring are also named in the inscription: Helen and John, cut off when young; James, died in India in 1815, aged 27; William, died at London 21st March 1857, aged 66; and Janet, died 17th March 1856, aged 75.

A manuscript History of Dumfries remains in the library of the Dumfries and Galloway Club, as a memorial not less of Dr. Burnside's amiable nature than of his literary taste and skill. It is a folio volume of 172 closely written pages, compiled for Sir John Sinclair's "Statistical Account," and only to a small extent embodied in that work. Strictly speaking, it is not so much a history as a valuable collection of statistics, shewing how Dumfries looked and fared at the close of the eighteenth century, accompanied by unconnected jottings of many prior historical events relating to the town and parish.

William Stothert, a successful Dumfries merchant, and his spouse, Mary Johnstone, are noticed laconically on the next monument: "He died 1st October 1767, aged 73. She died 22nd March 1763, aged 59." Their son, James Stothert of Cargen, died 1st March 1800, age not mentioned; and his spouse, Margaret Cockburn, are borne in remembrance by another stone within the same enclosure. A third bears the honoured name of a son of James, grandson of the Dumfries merchant, to wit William Stothert of Cargen, who is still well remembered by many as a pious and devoted office-bearer of Maxwelltown Chapel during the early years of its existence. He died 23d May 1863, aged 72, in Edinburgh, where he had been sojourning for a lengthened period. Mr. Stothert was twice married, first to Rebecca Thomson Monteith, who, it is stated, "fell asleep" 5th December 1825, aged 28; secondly to Jemima Deborah Dean, who "entered into rest" 2d March 1835, aged 29. A fourth monument within the same compartment is dedicated to Thomas Cockburn Stothert of Blaiket, died at Hastings 30th June 1817, aged 24.

Of all the compartments in the entire range of the burial-ground, that which belongs to the Craigmuie family is kept in the finest order. It seems almost like a section cut from the Cemetery of *Pere la Chaise*. Two stately old-fashioned monuments help to supply a fitting framework on the north, while in front are seen several smaller modern erections, mostly cruciform, on which some rare workmanship has been lavished. Bushes of dwarf yew, not pining alone, like Blair's "cheerless unsocial plant," but growing up lovingly alongside of geraniums and other cheerful flowers, and the beautiful artistic products combining finely with the spring-revived or evergreen garniture of the enclosure; the emblematic stones and the flowers telling alike of a resurrection day. Three leading families of the district—the Goldies, Corries, and Lawsons—have contributed to the population of the sepulchre below.

One of the wall monuments commemorates Thomas Corrie of Steilston, died 15th April 1859, aged 70; his wife, Clementina Blair Ross; and their son, Hugh Corrie, died 5th June 1860, aged 41. The elder Mr. Corrie was manager of the British Linen Company's Bank, Edinburgh, and proprietor of Newtonairds and Priestlands, as well as Steilston. One of his daughters was married to the late Vice-Admiral Archibald M'Murdo of Cargenholm, in which way the Corries became connected with another distinguished Dumfries family. Walter de Corrie, the first of the name upon record, was constable of the Castle of Dumfries in 1291-2. James Corrie, another of the race, bore rule as provost in 1718-19-20, and during two subsequent biennial periods.

A lengthened obituary, as follows, appears upon the other principal monument: John Goldie of Craigmuie, who was many years Commissary of Dumfries, died 1776, aged 64; Jean Corrie, his wife, daughter of James Corrie of Speddoch; James, their eldest son, died 1763, aged 26; Catherine, wife of David Corrie of Newlaw, died 1782, aged 35; Thomas, the fifth son, who officiated also as Commissary of Dumfries, died 4th March 1823, aged 75; Helen Lawson, his wife, daughter of Hugh Lawson of Girthead; and Grace, Janet, and Jane, their daughters, the latter a lady of high mark in many respects, who died at Summerhill 13th February 1852, aged 69. On the plinth of the edifice appear the names of other members of the family, including Mary, daughter of Thomas Goldie, and wife of Major P. G. Blair of the Madras Artillery, both of whom died in India; also Catherine, another daughter, wife of the Rev. David Dow of Irongray. On one of the cruciform stones are inscribed, without dates, the names of William Scot of Craigmuie and Helen Goldie, his spouse.

Commissary John Goldie, the elder, was also Sheriff-Depute of Dumfriesshire, in which latter capacity he kept up a highly interesting correspondence with a Church dignitary of Carlisle regarding the movements of Prince Charles, which throws much light upon the Jacobite raid from Edinburgh into the Border country. With the younger Commissary Goldie, Burns had frequent intercourse, though politically they were wide as the poles asunder, the former being a high Conservative and the latter something more than a Whig. Soon after the first French Revolution broke out, a sort of anti-Gallican association was formed in Dumfries for "preserving peace, liberty, and property, and for supporting the laws and constitution of the country," all which were supposed by many timid persons to be endangered by the mad doings of the demagogues across the Channel. Over this patriotic body, which was named the Loyal Native Club, Mr. Goldie bore rule as president. It appears, however, to have had but a brief existence, the Radical bard almost snuffing it out by his audacious impromptu:

> "Ye true Loyal Natives attend to my song,
> In uproar and riot rejoice the night long;
> From envy and hatred your corps is exempt,
> But where is your shield from the darts of contempt?"

As we read the name Jane Goldie, the figure of a comely gentlewoman going about "doing good," by acts of open-handed charity and by fostering many benevolent schemes, rises up to fancy's eye, as familiar on our streets forty years ago. Miss Goldie was also an authoress of considerable repute, discussing social, religious, and even political topics with much originality and force, in three small volumes, entitled respectively "Faith and Opinion," "Family Recollections," and "Freedom not Lawlessness." In her latter days she, like her relative Mr. Dow of Irongray, adopted Millennarian views; and the embryo congregation of the Irvingites received much fostering encouragement from the gifted lady of Summerhill. She bequeathed £300 to purchase a public park for Maxwelltown; and although twenty-four years have since elapsed, the legacy has not yet been given effect to, owing greatly to the difficulty experienced by the trustees in getting a suitable field for the sum at their disposal. Bank interest has swelled it to £400; and we venture to express a hope that this sum will ere long be enlarged by voluntary contributions, and the contemplated park be secured as a boon to the Maxweltonians and an evergreen memento of their amiable benefactress.

Next to the Craigmuie ground several members of two other notable families—the Herons of Heron and the Maxwells of Cargen—lie interred. The head of the former a century ago owned much property in Dumfries, and was a partner in the Ayr Bank, whose unfortunate collapse in 1772 brought ruin to many households. His daughter Mary became the spouse of Robert Maxwell, who appears in the history of the Burgh as a man of considerable parts and of no ordinary aspirations. He was elevated to the provostship in 1756, and after holding it for two years would fain have got the lease renewed for other two; but meeting with strong opposition, he retired in order to support the candidature of his brother-in-law, Bailie James Corbet, whose extraordinary contest with Graham of Kinharvie we described at the beginning of the present chapter. The vast influence wielded by Robert Maxwell is, however, evidenced by the fact that he officiated as chief magistrate for a longer period than any other provost, with the single exception of John Staig—his terms extending over 1756-7-8, 1760-1-2, 1766-7-8, 1772-3, 1776-7-8, 1779-80-1. Dying in her matronly prime, Provost Maxwell's faithful spouse was buried here; her graces of mind and body being thus finely portrayed on the memorial stone:

"In memory of Mary Heron, daughter of Patrick Heron, Esq., and wife of Robert Maxwell of Cargen, who died February, 1772, aged 38. In her, external attractions were heighten'd by the most amiable virtues: manners affable, gentle, and engaging; a winning sweetness and equality of temper; a disposition social and benevolent render'd her esteem'd and belov'd by all who knew her; to her husband a complacent, tender, and affectionate wife; to her children an attentive parent, faithful monitor, and bright example. By an unwearied exertion of every domestic virtue she diffus'd constant happiness thro' all her family, who on her account ne'er felt a pang but when she died."*

In front of this monument, which stands upon the wall, there are three altar-stones, one of them very antique, commemorating Grissall Maxwell, died 17th April 1733, aged 15, and John Maxwell, merchant, died in August 1747, aged 34, children of Edward Maxwell, merchant. Rich carved work in high relief, representing the symbols of death and the hope which looks beyond the grave, gives an attractive border to the tablet—the most conspicuous feature being an open Bible displaying the words "Verbum Dei manet in æternum:" the Word of God which endureth for ever. The other stones are devoted to the memory of Bailie Edward Maxwell, merchant, died 4th April 1740, aged 56; Mary Irving, his spouse; Provost Edward Maxwell, who bore rule in 1774-5, and died 15th October 1788, age not given; his wife, Charlotte Blair, and three of their children; one of whom, Major Bryce Maxwell, of the 8th Foot Regiment, fell fighting gallantly in Martinique when that island was taken by the British from the French in 1809.

For some thirty years, ending in 1770, James Hill was the chief surgeon and compounder of medicines in the Burgh. One of his apprentices whom he instructed in the healing art, Dr. Benjamin Bell, rose to be the greatest surgeon of his day in Scotland; and the master acquired much professional and scientific repute also, though it was of a more restricted range than that enjoyed by his celebrated pupil. The dust of this

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* The fine idea expressed in the last sentence seems to have been borrowed from Pope's Epitaph on the Hon. Simon Harcourt:

> "To this sad shrine, whoe'er thou art, draw near;
> Here lies the friend most loved, the son most dear;
> Who ne'er knew joy but friendship might divide,
> Or gave his father grief but when he died."

"good apothecary" lies beside the next monument we reach, a fine stately structure resting upon the wall, on which are inscribed the following words, which do no more than justice to the memory of an intelligent and worthy man :—

> "Sacred to the memory of James Hill, late surgeon in Dumfries, who died in the year 1770, aged 73. To very superior skill in his profession, he joined a taste for science, which he cultivated to the latest period of his life. His benevolence to the poor, who had not then the resource of an Infirmary, was unwearied."

A supplementary inscription states, in a style of quiet pathos, that

> "Here also rest the remains of Ann M'Cartney, of Blaiket, his spouse, the last of her family, whose modest virtues and humble piety retired from public view."

Six of their offspring are named on the monument : Robert, "lost in the Nith," at the age of 11 ; Margaret, Agnes, and Janet, "who grew up to be women ;" John, who died "at an early age" in Jamaica ; and Harriet, who died at Bath : "all of them were respected, loved, mourned." Within the same compartment two table stones commemorate other relatives, including George M'Cartney of Blaiket, brother of Mrs Hill, died 16th May 1758, aged 30 ; his sister Janet ; George Hill of Blaiket, died 29th January 1810, aged 67—Jean Callander his spouse ; George M'Cartney Hill, died in the Island of Tobago, 7th October 1813, aged 33 ; James Hill, M.D., died in the Island of St. Croix, 12th June 1824, aged 49 ; John Hill, died in Edinburgh, 22d June 1857, aged 80 ; and Margaret Gillespie, his spouse.

While John Hill, apothecary, was ministering to the health of the lieges, he who is his next door neighbour in "the silent land" was busy familiarising the "rising generation" of that day with the mysteries of Euclid and Dilworth—his humble tombstone telling posterity that "Here lyes what is mortal of Charles Mercer, mathematician, Dumfries, who died the 13th July 1772, aged 74 years." Mr. Mercer was the first teacher of arithmetic, mathematics, and writing, under Bailie Paterson's bequest. His wife, Mary Grierson, and their son John, who died at 18, are also named in the inscription.

In the adjoining burial-place of George Gordon of Troquhain there are two altar-stones, commemorating his daughters, Margaret and Mary, both of whom reached an advanced age; and another daughter Janet, relict of the Rev. Thomas M'Kinnell, minister of Urr, died 12th September, 1784, aged 76.

On the next plot we find a unique erection, which is much admired on account of its fine proportions and florid ornamentation. Of a massive pyramidal shape, it constitutes a monumental gem, worthy of the genius to whom it is popularly, but erroneously, attributed—Inigo Jones. It commemorates the virtues of Sarah, wife of Robert Cutlar, merchant, died 6th December 1759, aged 44; and who, it is stated, was "Pious and devout, friendly and affectionate, open and sincere," passing "through life under a heavy pressure of long affliction, cheerfully sustain'd in the supporting prospect of a better state." A flat stone in front is thus inscribed:

> "In memory of Miss Wauchop Riddell, sixth daughter of Robert Riddell, Esq. of Glenriddell, and Jean Fergusson of Craigdarroch. She died most universally lamented 22d November, 1779, in the 28th year of her age."

The Robert Cutlar mentioned above carried on a flourishing business in Dumfries, though he occupied, it is said, premises that are now deemed very humble—the little shop below the porch of the Mid Steeple, on the south side. By marrying into the patrician family of Craigdarroch he improved his social position. His own family name was borne by several of his wife's relatives, among others by her nephew, Robert Cutlar Fergusson, the distinguished senator. Mr. Fergusson, after returning from India, where he spent his early manhood, was nominated by the Whig party in Kirkcudbrightshire to oppose General Dunlop of Southwick, who had been Conservative member for the constituency during three successive Parliaments. The contest occasioned extraordinary excitement, and resulted in the return of Mr. Fergusson by the narrow majority of one vote, the numbers having been 48 to 47. This was the last election battle fought in the Stewartry under the old system; and he continued to occupy the seat when the constituency was enlarged by the Reform Act of 1832. The political career of the honourable member amply justified the high expectations formed by his friends, and it received a brilliant halo from his devoted advocacy of the cause of unhappy Poland, whose sons still hold his memory dear. Not a few members of the Craigdarroch family acquired distinction in the field and the senate. The head of the house in Burns's day, "Craigdarroch so famous for wit, worth, and law," bore off the Whistle trophy in the famous Bacchanalian contest, where much claret but no blood was shed; the Glenriddell whose name appears above as the father of Wauchop Riddell being the father of another of the combatants, and characterised by the bard as "the worthy Glenriddell so cautious and sage." How closely Burns was associated with the Riddells is known to all who have followed his career when he resided at Ellisland and Dumfries, and are familiar with the later productions of his muse. An upright slab, fronting the Cutlar monument, rises in memory of Henry Fergusson of Craigdarroch, who died January 29th 1847, aged 72.

In the next compartment lies James Harley, by whom much of the carpentry of the Burgh a hundred years ago was executed, his handicraft being especially shewn in the erection of the Church under whose shadow the family tombstone rises, and for the timber work of which venerable fane £186 was charged, and in Moorheads' Hospital, in the adjoining street, for building which he received £564. James Harley became Deacon of the Squaremen, and besides founding, or helping to erect, some notable public buildings, he founded a family of good condition, the Harleys of Portrack. He died at the advanced age of 87, on the 28th of May 1795. His spouse, Mary Appleby, and children, seven in number, are named upon the monument. Overlooking it, upon the wall, rises a more imposing structure, in memory of his son, John Harley, surgeon, died January 1803, age not stated; of the wife of the latter, Elizabeth Maxwell, and of their five children, including Alexander Harley Maxwell of Portrack, died 20th September 1853, aged 70, who was long the respected chamberlain of the Duke of Buccleuch in Eskdale.

A plain wall monument in memory of William Gunyon, died 12th January 1865, aged 87, and his wife Mary Gulline is neighboured by four altar-stones, bearing the death-record of several relatives, some of whom flourished as merchants during the middle of last century. We read of Robert Goldie, died 22d October 1767, aged 72; his spouse, Margaret Brown; Robert Glover, died 26th April 1807, aged 26; his wife, Elizabeth Porteous; that lady's brother, Robert Porteous, died 24th July 1802, aged 72; his two wives, Abigail Hair and Mary Hyslop; his two sisters, Helen and Mary; and three children; also of William Gunyon, died 16th February 1755, aged 66; another William Gunyon, died 19th March 1812, aged 70; his wife Jean M'Kie; and two young members of their family.

The last named merchant is described as a tobacconist, the earliest of that occupation we have as yet seen noticed in the Cemetery, though long before he was born the West India "weed" formed the subject of a very extensive trade, partly contraband, in the waters of the Solway. About 1250 hogsheads which paid duty were annually imported by the Burgh for a long series of years prior to 1740; but according to Dr. Burnside it is believed the exportation was considerably greater, and that, "in consequence of some unhappy mistakes of this kind, the trade was discouraged."

On one of the stones appears the name of William Dinwiddie, painter and glazier, who, "respected by all who had the pleasure of his acquaintance," died 15th December 1823, aged 51. He was the father of our esteemed townsman, Mr. James Dinwiddie, who long and successfully followed the same occupation; and he married Marion Gunyon, the sister of the tobacconist, who, with three children, and Grizzel Johnston, died 1st December 1815, aged 49, are also mentioned on the monument.

The graves of John Brand, died 26th December 1830, aged 72, and of William Brand, both of Mountainhall, and of a nephew of the former, Thomas Thorburn, W.S., are next reached; the handsome monument which commemorates them furnishing the record of one who was all but a centenarian. If William Brand, who "shuffled off this mortal coil" on the 27th of August 1825, had retained it a few months longer, he would have been a hundred years of age. He lived under the regal rule of all the four Georges, was old enough to have remembered when the young Pretender held kingly state in Holyrood, and to have seen him occupying Dumfries with his Highland followers, and also to have witnessed his successor, George the Fourth, hold a levee in the same royal halls. Moorheads' Hospital, the verdant Dock avenue, the Dumfries and Galloway Royal Infirmary, the New Church, the present St. Michael's Church, and the New Bridge, had no existence when the deceased gentleman was born ; and these, with many other acquisitions, helped to revolutionise the aspect of the Burgh during his protracted career. More privileged he was than most mortals who live far into the winter of existence if he did not pass through other changes of a different kind, such as are expressed by the moralising poet :

"Year chases year, decay pursues decay,
Still drops some joy from withering life away ;
New forms arise, and different views engage,
Superfluous lags the veteran on the stage ;
Till pitying nature signs a last release,
And bids afflicted worth depart in peace."

Of centenarians the grounds afford little trace. Two other monuments tell of older men than the one erected over Mr. Brand, and only two, out of the three thousand stones or more scattered over the Cemetery.

Thomas Thorburn, whose name is mentioned on the Mountainhall monument, resided at Ryedale, rendered classical as the favourite resort of Burns when it was occupied by his good friend John Syme, "Stamp Office Johnie," whose worth, wit, and mental strength have been lovingly commemorated by the poet. Mr. Thorburn was intimately conversant with our national airs and lyrics, as his valuable notes to "Wood's Songs of Scotland" bear ample witness. He died on the 30th of July 1872, age not given. A slab in front bears the names of Marion Grierson and Mary Brand, wives of William Burnet.

At almost every step we take, a reminder is supplied of Death's levelling influence, and that the only true republic is where he "keeps his pale court in beauty and decay." It does not need a tombstone next to the Mountainhall monument, raised over members of a related family to proclaim the solemn truth; yet the beautiful language embodying it is well worthy of being quoted:

"How lov'd, how valu'd once, avails thee not;
To whom related or by whom begot,
A heap of dust alone remains of thee,
'Tis all thou art, and all the proud shall be."

These lines appear on a stone raised in memory of Margaret Mitchell, spouse of Joseph Donaldson, merchant, died 19th December 1771, aged 56; also of Janet Donaldson, wife of Robert M'Caskie, tallow-chandler, died 4th May 1804, aged 60. "The above inscription," it is added, "is done by Bethia Brand, her sister." Joseph Donaldson is himself commemorated by an adjoining stone, on which we read that he died 20th April 1772, aged 66, and that "he was a loving husband, an affectionate parent, a sincere friend, and a good Christian." The names of four children also appear on the tablet, one of whom, Ebenezer, was a surgeon, and died 7th April 1785, aged 34.

Several neat headstones along the wall, and table monuments in front of them, recal the names of respected tradesmen and merchants, such as Robert Muir, blacksmith, died 21st December 1853, aged 70, his spouse Isabel M'Nish, their daughter Agnes, and other relatives, lying sleeping at his side; John Courtis, merchant, died 23d June 1828, aged 76, with his wife Margaret Cunningham; James Perry, baker, who married the merchant's daughter Agnes, and died 28th February 1851, aged 62; several children, including Thomas who died at 27, James at 34, and Charles at 42; Rachel Chalmers, wife of James Perry, saddler, died 8th June 1854, aged 34, with their three children, all of whom were cut off in tender years; Charles Mills, Deacon of the Tailors, now lying "clad in clay," to use the expressive phrase of the old balladists, his death occurring 12th June 1787, age 76; Margaret Clark, his spouse; William

Cunningham, also a tailor, who wedded, first, the Deacon's daughter Mary, and afterwards Margaret Campbell, and died 7th August 1815, aged 76, leaving several children, among others Catherine who died at 24, Jane at 63, and Mary at 85; Joseph Irving, joiner, died at Dalkeith 13th July 1808, aged 28, Henrietta M'Burnie his spouse, and their daughter Josephine, wife of John Sharpe, baker.

Here lies also beneath a table stone one of the magistrates of the Burgh, Bailie Robert Wright, merchant, died 11th January 1781, aged 60, with his wife, Margaret Lowdon; a similar monument beside it marking the resting-place of another merchant, James Henderson, died 16th January 1745, aged 31.

James Ramsay of Drungans, who preceded John Mitchell as Collector of Excise in this district, is commemorated by a massive altar-stone—died 12th March 1788, aged 62; also his wife, Mary Sloan; and five children, including Lieutenant James Ramsay, died at Leven, Fifeshire, 8th January 1812, aged 49; Peter, died at Keswick, 21st November 1835, aged 72; and John, who "practised the profession of a physician in Newcastle-upon-Tyne for the space of forty years with honour and success," dying in Edinburgh 8th July 1845, in his 80th year.

Further on, within grounds chain-protected and neatly kept, rises a tall, handsome obelisk, in memory of a worthy man, John Allan of Fountainbleau, who died at Nith Lodge, Dumfries, 22d September 1861, aged 67. Two daughters, Elizabeth, who died when 19, and Josephine when 21, are also named upon the monument. His wife's father, John Reid, cabinetmaker, died August 1819 (no age mentioned), and mother Janet Caird, with their infant son, W. C. Reid, are commemorated on an altar-stone within the same enclosure.

NORTH-EAST NOOK—THE POET'S CORNER.

Even as the north-west nook of the Churchyard is known as "The Military Corner," so might the north-east nook, now arrived at, be termed "The Poet's Corner." Thither was borne the body of Burns on the fourth day after his death, the earth by receiving his dust, and hoarding it "with miser care" for nineteen years, obtaining more than priestly consecration; and clustering round the spot lie the remains of several contemporaries who, while he and they were yet alive, paid homage to his genius. The list includes William Hyslop of Lochend; his spouse, Jean, daughter of Terraughty, "the Maxwell's vet'ran chief;" John Bushby, once a favourite cronie of Burns, though they ultimately fell out; James Gracie, banker, a kind friend to the bard when he most needed help; John Lewars, father of the poet's brotherly colleague in the Excise, and of the far-famed Jessie Lewars, who was a ministering angel to the poet when on his death-bed; and Provost Robert Jackson, whose hospitable house often received "the inspired gauger" as a welcome guest. Most of their names, written by the sculptor's iron pen, are preserved on the surrounding monuments.

On the Hyslop monument appear his own name, date of death 26th May 1803, aged 59, and his social characteristics briefly sketched—"an affectionate husband and parent, and a zealous and liberal friend;" also the names of his wife and of no fewer than fourteen children, all of whom have long since been numbered with the dead. Five of them died when infants, the others at the following ages: Jean, 23; William, 56; Marian, 46; John, 65; Maxwell, 53; Agnes (relict of David Gordon), 63; Wellwood, who resided forty years at Kingston, Jamaica, where he died 16th February 1845, aged 64; Elizabeth, 56; and Helen Stewart, "the last of that bright band," who died 12th January 1852, at the advanced age of 75.

Fronting this edifice there are two headstones, one raised in remembrance of John Johnston, died 19th May 1836, aged 70; eight of his offspring, including William, died at St. Bartholomew, West Indies, 21st November 1827, aged 24; the other stone commemorating Lieutenant Walter Ritchie, of the 14th Light Dragoons, died at Nithbank, 1st November 1823, aged 34.

The Bushby monument is a handsome urn-surmounted obelisk, built, we believe, by Burns's friend in memory of his father, and intended also to commemorate himself; but, strange to say, it bears only the father's name and that of another son Thomas. In the inscription John Bushby, senior, is represented as "late vintner in Dumfries, who died 8 June 1781, aged 78 years," and his son Thomas, as Collector of Customs in Kirkcudbright, died 30th August 1807, aged 66. John Bushby of Tinwald Downs was bred a writer. Naturally clever, astute, and aspiring, he gradually got on in the world, and as solicitor, private banker, and factor over Rockhall and other estates, he was a prosperous man when he first made the acquaintance of the national bard, who was then toiling away at Ellisland in the double capacity of farmer and exciseman. After Burns came to Dumfries he was a frequent guest at Tinwald Downs; but he and its wealthy occupant eventually quarrelled, and Bushby was bitterly satirised in the Heron Election Ballads of 1795. He is also the subject of the well-known epitaph which Burns must have penned when in a splenetic mood :

"Here lies John Bushby, *honest man ;*
Cheat him, Devil, if you can."

As the name John Bushby, junior, does not appear on the family obelisk, we supposed he might have been buried near his mansion, in Tinwald Churchyard ; but on ascertaining that this was not the case, we could not avoid coming to the conclusion that he must have found a resting-place beside his father, and that through sheer neglect on the part of surviving relatives his noteworthy obituary has been omitted from the stone-book of St. Michael's.* He is represented in "John Bushby's Lamentation" as saying, with reference to the help he gave to Mr. Gordon in his contest with Mr. Heron for Kirkcudbrightshire :

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* In answer to our enquiries on this subject, Mr. William Crockett, schoolmaster at Amisfield, kindly favoured us by stating that he had applied to many persons who might be supposed to know something regarding it, among others to the person in charge of the graveyard, and "they all concur in believing that John Bushby is not buried in the churchyard of Tinwald."

"And there led I the Bushbys a';
My gamesome billie Will,
And my son Maitland, wise as brave,
My footsteps followed still."

Whether any of these "Bushbys a'" were laid in this plot, we know not; but it supplied sleeping room for the last remaining male descendant of their chief, Peter, a deaf mute, who was struck down by cholera in 1848—only twelve and a half hours transpiring between the attack and his interment. Mute too, regarding him, the monument has nothing to say of Peter Bushby, who was a respectable man and very intelligent in spite of his natural defects.

Close to the spot where Burns was first buried rises a neat upright monument, in memory of the man whose general and official virtues he celebrated in a rough and ready epigram:

"Gracie, thou art a man of worth;
O, be thou Dean for ever!" &c.

For upwards of twenty years, James Gracie occupied the magisterial Bench as Treasurer or Dean of Guild. He was a captain in the famous "Dumfries Volunteers," of which Burns was a member and the amateur poet-laureate: *vide* his song, "Does haughty Gaul invasion threat?" When the bard lay hopelessly ill at Brow, the carriage of Mr. Gracie was placed at his service to bring him home, where he arrived only to breathe his last. Mr. Gracie died 23d March 1814, at the age of 58. The monument also commemorates his wife Jean Cowan, who died 15th October 1836, aged 88, niece of Mary Wilson of Kelton, wife of William Kirkpatrick of Conheath, and great-grandmother of Eugenie, Empress of the French; also their son William, a W.S., died 13th March 1818, aged 32; and their second son, James, who sought "the bubble reputation even at the cannon's mouth." As brevet major in the 21st Infantry Regiment, he was at the taking of Genoa and the battle of Bladensberg; with twenty picked men he led the forlorn hope at the capture of Washington, where he was wounded; and, when aged only 30, he, "foremost fighting, fell" at the battle of Baltimore, 13th September 1813. Also their other children—Jessie Wilson, who died at 30; Margaret, at 58; John, at 57; the wife of the latter, Isabella Campbell of Springfield, Galloway; and their daughter Jean Cowan, "a true woman." The name of the well known genealogist, James Campbell Gracie, Dumfries, son of John and grandson of the banker, also appears upon the tablet, but we are glad to say he still survives, the inscription having been prudently placed by him there beforehand.

To the memory of John Lewars, Supervisor of Excise, Dumfries, a neat table-stone is devoted, the words on which inform us that he died on the 22d of April 1789, in the 69th year of his age; and we may fittingly add here what is said of his son in the obituary of the *Dumfries Monthly Magazine* for October 1826: "At Ryedale Cottage, Troqueer, Mr. John Lewars, late Supervisor of Excise in Dumfries, aged 57 years. It was from Mr. Lewars that Burns received his official instructions on entering the Excise; and from this circumstance originated a friendship which existed between them, without interruption, until the death of the poet."

The Jackson monument is an imposing structure, Gothic in design, with a cross by way of apex. It commemorates a gentleman who was honourably associated with the literary as well as the municipal concerns of the Burgh. He it was who launched its first periodical, the *Dumfries Magazine*, and its first newspaper, the *Dumfries Weekly Journal*, the former being withdrawn prior to the starting of the latter in 1777. Though Provost Jackson paid great attention to Burns, there is little said in his broadsheet respecting the movements of the poet, even the memorable fact that Dumfries acquired him as a citizen towards the close of 1791 receiving no mention in the local newspaper; but then editors in these days did not interview great men as they now do, and the fame of the bard was at that date only in the bud, not in the full flower. With some two or three of his pieces, however, the pages of the *Weekly Journal* were afterwards enriched. According to the inscription on the memorial-stone, Mr. Jackson was "many years Provost of this Burgh" —the precise periods are 1797-8-9, 1800-1-2, 1809-10—and he died 16th December 1810, aged 67. The monument also commemorates his wife Jane Cochrane, their children, including Jane, died at 24; Robert, Comptroller of Customs, died 8th January 1824, aged 51; Janet, died 27th April 1854, aged 79; her husband William Comrie, died 13th November 1811, aged 50; and Jane, their daughter, who died at 15.

Penetrating through these surroundings, we reach the hallowed core of the Corner, and realise in some degree the solemn scene that ensued when it gave reception to the body of Burns, on Monday the 21st of July 1796. Dumfries wore that day a mournful, yet animated, aspect. The ordinary population was swelled by sympathetic crowds; military men, belonging to the Cinque Ports cavalry and the Angusshire Fencibles, then stationed in the town, lined the long, diversified thoroughfare leading from the Town Hall, where the body lay in state, to the place of burial; through the files of these guardian soldiers passed the bier, slowly borne by six of the Dumfries Volunteers, who changed at intervals, not so much for rest as that many might share the honour of carrying their comrade to the tomb; the Cinque Ports' band preceding with suitable music; the whole procession being headed by another body of Volunteers, "the firing party," and followed up by a vast array of the unmarshalled populace. Comparatively few could see the simple obsequies as the body was lowered to its lonely resting place, but all heard the tolling of the muffled bells and the notes of the Dead March in Saul, which gave voice to the general emotion of sorrow, and the piercing salute of musketry fired over the newly occupied grave, which sounded like the *vale eternum* of the assembled mourners to the coffined dead, buried out of sight, yet never to be forgotten, and ever acquiring a fresh heritage of fame as the years roll past.

"Great," says Professor Wilson, "was the grief of the people for their poet's death. They felt that they had lost their greatest man; and it is no exaggeration to say that Scotland was saddened on the day of his funeral. It is seldom that tears are shed even close to the grave beyond the inner circle that narrows around it; but that day there were tears in the eyes of many far off at their work, and that night there was silence in thousands of cottages that had so often heard his songs—how sweeter far than any other, whether mournfully or merrily, to old accordant melodies, they won their way into the heart !"

"Praise to the man ! A nation stood
  Beside his coffin with wet eyes—
Her brave, her beautiful, her good—
  As when a loved one dies.

And still, as on his funeral day,
  Men stand his cold earth-couch around,
With the mute homage that we pay
  To consecrated ground."*

The piece of ground first occupied by the remains of the poet had been purchased by him some years before his death for a family burial place †; and when in 1815 his dust was re-interred below the Mausoleum, the plot was given by Mrs. Burns to a respected friend, Monsieur Perochon, whose wife was daughter of the poet's kind patroness, Mrs. Dunlop ; and Mrs. Perochon, in accordance with her dying wish, was laid in the tomb of her mother's friend. Often did he in corresponding with Mrs. Dunlop refer with enthusiasm to her glorious ancestor, the Liberator of Scotland. "Your patronising me," he said on one occasion, "and interesting yourself in my fame and character as a poet I rejoice in ; it exalts me in my own idea ; and whether you can or cannot aid me in my subscription list is a trifle. Has a paltry subscription list any charms to the heart of a bard compared with the patronage of the descendant of the immortal Wallace ?" Thus there is more than romance, there is a poetical fitness, in the arrangement by which this generous lady's child was laid in the grave of the man whom her mother delighted to honour ;

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* Verses on viewing the remains of a rose brought from Alloway Kirk, in autumn 1822, by Fitzgreen Halleck, an American poet, previously quoted from on p. 2.

† We have not been able to find any entry in the St Michael's Kirk-Session Minutes respecting this purchase. At a meeting held by the Session, 21st October 1796, several months after the poet's death, "a petition was read and agreed to in favour of Bailie Robert and the deceased Robert Burns for two burying-grounds, as in the petitions of this date ; and the clerk was appointed to register them in the books kept for that purpose ; the above burying-grounds to be paid for at the rate of one guinea each, together with clerk's and beadle's dues."

who sang "Scots wha hae wi' Wallace bled;" and who, in a burst of patriotic fervour, exclaimed:

> "At Wallace' name what Scottish blood
> But boils into a spring-tide flood!"

On the monument, a neat oblong block, there is the following inscription:

> "Sacred to the memory of Agnes Eleanor Dunlop, wife of Joseph Elias Perochon, Esq., and daughter of the late Mrs. Frances Wallace Dunlop of Dunlop, the only daughter and worthy representative of Sir Thomas Wallace of Craigie, Bart., who died the 16th Oct. 1825. Also in memory of Anne, daughter of Alexander Cunningham, Esq., and widow of Anthony Dunlop, Esq., who died 17th February 1854."

Mrs. Perochon's husband, we may add, was a French Royalist, who fled from his native country during its revolutionary troubles, and found a pleasant retreat at Castlebank, Dumfries. He was an estimable gentleman, and, though deprived of eyesight, possessed of many accomplishments. Like her mother, Mrs. Perochon was a warm-hearted, generous, and estimable lady. After the death of Burns the friendship between her and Mrs. Burns was still continued, and it was specially manifested by the former in zealous efforts to benefit the poet's widow and family, and which the latter lovingly acknowledged. "Much indeed," wrote Mrs. Burns to Mrs. Perochon on the 2d of February 1816, "do I already owe to your disinterested friendship; and while a generous public are anxious to do justice to the genius of my husband by building so superb a monument to perpetuate his memory, you have paid the best tribute of your regard by so warmly interesting yourself in behalf of his widow and his children. In this you follow the example of her whose virtues you inherit, and who highly distinguished Mr. B. by a friendship which formed one of his first enjoyments."

CHAPTER VII.

ALONG THE EASTERN WALL.

ALONG this, as well as the other borders of the Cemetery, numerous stones "cry out of the wall," to proclaim the mortality of our race and commemorate some of its individual members; the same parable of death, and the same "longing, lingering" desire to escape utter forgetfulness, being expressed by neighbouring structures of a less conspicuous form.

Adjoining the Gracie monument appear two altar memorials, one of which tells us of a genial-hearted gentleman, John Thorburn, late Postmaster in the Burgh, first Dean of the Dumfriesshire Procurators, and one of the best conveyancers of his day. He died 21st August 1867, aged 66. The obituary list bears also the following names: Agnes, his wife; Robert, his father, long in Barnkin, died at Rosebank 1st December 1848, aged 74; Mary Swan, his mother; John, his grandfather, also tenant of Barnkin, died 18th April 1792, aged 43; Isabella Donaldson, wife of the latter; her father John Donaldson, who died 12th January 1767, aged 48; and his spouse Margaret Tait. Mr. Donaldson also held the farm of Barnkin, and of him it is said on the monument, he was "an affectionate father and a loving husband."

Jonah Nicholson, who preceded William Gunyon in the tobacco-vending line, his wife Mary Carruthers, and two of their young children, are commemorated by a stone of the same type. He died 1st July 1780, aged 54. To their daughter-in-law a similar stone is devoted, which bears the following epitaph:

> "In memory of Agnes Haining, spouse to James Nicholson, tobacconist in Dumfries, who departed this life the eighteenth of May one thousand eight hundred years. She died at the age of twenty-eight, was the mother of seven children, six of whom survive to deplore with infant tears the loss of an affectionate mother; whilst their disconsolate father mourns the loss of an endearing wife and a firm and steady friend. To the unaffected piety which forms the

Christian she added the universal benevolence that constitutes the Friend of humankind. In life she was esteemed, and in death she was lamented, by all who knew her."

All these memorials are but slightly removed from "The Poet's Corner;" and two or three others, which seem suitably placed in the same neighbourhood, remain to be noticed. One of them is the stately family monument of Mr. George Dunbar, shewing a blank in the panel, which we hope will long remain unoccupied with his name. Dunbar Terrace, Langlands, and other structures which beautify the town, afford enduring proofs of his enterprise; and for half a century or more he has been one of our most useful and respected citizens. The names of four of Mr. Dunbar's children are inscribed on the monument, Janet who died at 22, and the others in childhood; and near by rises a headstone in memory of his grandson, infant child of David and Helen Dunbar, bearing the following verse:

"Why should we grieve for thee, sweet child,
Who wert so fair an earthly flower—
Nipt in the bud, by Angels wiled
To blossom in a heavenly bower."

These lines were penned by the mourning father, the Poet of Home Life, himself translated to the "better land" on the 23d of June 1873.

A table tombstone in front bears the names of Thomas Dunbar, Deacon of the Squaremen, died 20th March 1805, aged 52; of his spouse Janet Johnston (parents of Mr. G. Dunbar); and of their children James, who died at Cape Coast, Africa, when aged 19, Janet when 36, David, a distinguished sculptor, died 12th August 1866, aged 74. Within the porch of St. Michael's Church there is seen the beautiful figure of a sleeping child, cut by the artist before his hand had lost its cunning, and before his eyes were sealed in the sleep of death. This is a copy by him of a work which he executed in early life, and for which, among other honours, he was made a member of the Royal Academy of Carrara. During his long professional career, Mr. D. Dunbar produced numerous studies from the antique, busts from life, a statue of Sir Pulteney Malcolm, which adorns the town of Langholm; and by instituting a series of art exhibitions, two of which were held in Dumfries, he did much to foster the æsthetic faculty among his fellow-countrymen.

Next to the Jackson monument, rises a neat one, on the wall, in memory of Robert Wilson, who shared with the Primroses and Watts in the tanning business of the district. Dying 25th June 1807, aged 77, it is said of him, "He lived respected and died regretted." A lengthened obituary follows, embracing Mary Robson, his spouse; their daughter Jane; her husband, Thomas Crosbie, merchant, died 14th May 1818, aged 56; the family of the last named parent pair: "Sarah [an infant], Robert, Mary Ann [Mrs. Macminn], William, Jessie [Mrs. Richardson], Robina, Thomas, Archibald."

We next reach a very neat mural edifice, sacred to the memory of James Halliday, builder, who died at Craigs 23d September 1854, aged 43.

Neighbouring it stands a massive structure, commemorating Robert Paterson of Nunfield, an opulent octogenarian, died 25th January 1870; also his wife, Margaret Rimmer, who died a few years afterwards, in her eightieth year; four of their children, cut off when infants; his father, James Paterson, ironmonger, died 26th April 1831, aged 72; his mother, Margaret Moore; and eight children of the latter: Agnes died at 13, Margaret at 17, William at 19, Jane at 22, Elizabeth at 30, and three who died in infancy.

With feelings akin to veneration we survey an adjoining monument, raised near the wall, resembling the Jackson one, only that the cross which forms its apex is smaller and more florid. It rises "Sacred to the memory of Francis Shortt, Esq., born 11th September 1754, died 19th December 1839." This suggestive sentence with which the inscription opens will recall to many of our local readers the dignified figure of a Scottish gentleman who, though not exactly of the olden time, was yet in many respects of the eighteenth century type, and whose head was clear, and heart warm, and step elastic, though the snows of five-and-eighty winters crowned his head. Before him there had passed a wonderful panorama of changes, both national and provincial, which had been photographed as it were on his inner eye; and it is recorded of him that in his latest days he was "a walking cyclopædia" of local events. For many years he acted as Town-Clerk of the Burgh, and he spent the autumn of his long and useful life in happy retirement at Courance. The name of his spouse, Bridget Smith, and of their two sons, Thomas and Andrew, are also cut upon the stone—the former of whom, "a physician to the forces," died on the 4th of March 1845; and the latter, a lieutenant in the 11th Regiment, N.I., Bombay, was killed in an engagement with the Arabs at the entrance to the Persian Gulf, in November 1820, when only 20 years of age.

An inscription on the plinth stating that this is the burial-place of Captain James Ewart, who died at Nunholm 29th January 1772, aged 60, and of Ann Jardine, his wife, has been recently removed; and the following names been added to the obituary list upon the stone: Major-General John Macourtie Shortt, third son of Francis, died at Folkestone, 9th February 1866, aged 63; and Flora Lucy, "the dearly-beloved wife" of Colonel A. Y. Shortt, of H.M. Staff Corps, Bombay, died 27th August 1875, aged 32.

Perhaps there is no more graceful memorial structure in the whole yard than the one alongside of Mr. Shortt's, which is erected on the wall. It consists of a plinth, base, and long tapering shaft, with urn at the top, all very finely proportioned. A marble tablet on the west side bears the names of John Aitken, Sheriff-Substitute of Dumfriesshire, died 16th September 1795, aged 68; his spouse, Ann Hay; and their daughter Jean. On the north side appears the name of another daughter, Mary, spouse of David Anderson, Examiner of his Majesty's Customs, died 10th April 1808, aged 49.

Whose monument can that be, the top of which is barely seen rising above the wall at this point, with no words visible to tell who lies below? Tall trees, that were meant to be tiny shrubs, rise before it, so close and high that its commemorative design is almost defeated; and it is with some difficulty we ascertain that the hidden tombstone is of a stately Grecian design, and that it is dedicated to the memory of one who was long our most influential local man, if not "the observed of all observers"—Provost Staig. He was first chosen chief magistrate in 1783, and seven times afterwards; his rule altogether extending over twenty years. Not only was he municipal head of the Burgh for that lengthened period, but he was also, as representative of the Bank of Scotland, a great monetary magnate for fully forty years. He was shrewd, pawkie, intelligent, fond of power and popularity; and in justice to him it must be added that much of his great influence was used to promote the public weal. A notice of Provost Staig, published in the *Dumfries Magazine* shortly after his death, states that "he was a main pillar in the building and organizing of the Dumfries Academy;" that "after unwearied exertions and correspondence with the Postmaster-General," he established a mail coach communication between Edinburgh, Dumfries, and Portpatrick in 1805; that he zealously promoted the building of the New Quay and of the New Bridge; and that many other minor improvements were "carried through during his administration." He died, as we learn from the monument, "on the 21st of October 1826, in the 84th year of his age." The monument was first erected, however, in memory of his second daughter, Janet or Jessie, who died in 1801, and of his spouse, Lilias Stewart, a member of the old family of Shambelly, who died in 1809. On the plinth of the monument appears the name of John Staig, collector of customs, son of Provost Staig, who died at his father's age, 30th May 1855.

Nothing is said in the principal inscription of the beauty, virtue, and accomplishments possessed to a rare extent by Jessie Staig; but this omission is of little moment, seeing that they find a place in a more permanent record, the poetry of Burns. When the lady recovered from a fever, under the care of a distinguished physician, the bard immortalised her in the epigram:

"Maxwell, if merit here you crave,
That merit I deny.
You save fair Jessie from the grave!—
An angel could not die."

And when Miss Staig was being courted by Major William Miller, younger of Dalswinton, to whom she was afterwards married, Burns again made her the heroine of his strains, declaring that her equal would not be found were all Scotland sought over, and that

> "Grace, beauty, and elegance fetter her lover,
> And maidenly modesty fixes the chain."

And again,

> "Love sits in her smile, a wizard ensnaring;
> Enthroned in her een, he delivers his law,
> And still to her charms she alone is a stranger—
> Her modest demeanour's the jewel of a'!"

Neither the highest medical skill, nor the spell of poetic genius used on the lady's behalf, nor the amulet of her own loveliness, could keep her from being the victim of an early death, as, after a brief experience of wedded bliss, she expired at the age of 26.

The last of the edifices on the eastern wall commemorates Robert Donald of Summerfield, died 26th October 1809, aged 84; Nicholas Hunter, his spouse; Mary Lewis, wife of William M'Lellan of High Kelton, died in Edinburgh 22d June 1836; Georgina Milligan Johnston, died June 1811; Robert D. M'Lellan, M.D., died 29th December 1847, aged 43. A table monument in front bears the name of the above William M'Lellan of High Kelton, a highly respected gentleman, who died at fourscore, 9th April 1854; also the name of his son Samuel, a youth of 17.

Between the mural monuments and the footpath west, there are about sixty other memorials, chiefly headstones and tables, those of the former kind bearing the following names and dates: Serjeant William Crichton of the Dumfries Militia, died 11th May 1837, aged 66, with Jean Pearson, his spouse, and five children—Frances, who died at 34, William at 28, and three others, cut off in infancy; William Frazer, long a respectable bookseller in the Burgh, died 30th April 1832, aged 45; John M'George, merchant, died 1st June 1836, aged 76, "erected by the legatees in memory of an affectionate uncle;" David Gibson, farmer, Jennygill of

Craigs, died 24th January 1856, aged 65, with Margaret Wright, his spouse, and three children, including John, who died at 17; five children of William Gordon, tobacconist, all summoned away when quite young; James Norris, gardener, died 28th May 1837, aged 57, with Mary Thomson, his spouse, Janet, their daughter, who died at 21—the same inscription recording the death of Mrs Norris's sister Elizabeth, wife of Andrew Farm, died 10th December 1869, aged 71, and of two of their sons, who died in boyhood; Penelope Johnstone, died 8th May 1839, aged 43, spouse of William Ross, long a respected member of the Tailors' Incorporation,—the death-record including his children, Margaret who died at 34, John at 17; and his second wife, Sarah Herries, who died at 60; a worthy man, James Welsh, tanner, died 27th June 1857, aged 68, with Jane M'Caa, his wife, who lived to be 83, and Marion, their daughter, who died at 42; James Currie, of the General Post-Office, died 17th August 1840; Thomas Nicholas, commercial traveller, who, passing to "the undiscovered country from whose bourn no traveller returns," died in King's Arms Hotel, 20th June 1840, aged 56.

Among the Cordwainers' Craft there used to be many Becks, some of whom slumber in this vicinity. On a headstone we read of Alexander Beck, died 22d January 1834, aged 68, Ann Campbell his wife, his daughter-in-law Margaret Miller, and several youthful children. The husband of the latter, a second Alexander Beck, who died 2d November 1854, aged 59, is named on the other side of the stone; also four of their offspring, one of whom died when a child, Isabella died at 31, Mary at 24, Annie, wife of William Thomson, died when 23 in Singapore. A second headstone commemorates Margaret Smith, wife of James Beck, died 18th October 1867, aged 32, and their infant daughter Jane.

Numerous altar-stones neighbour the foregoing, marking the spot where rest the following merchants and others: James Miller, died 4th April 1810, aged 78, with his spouse Elizabeth Muir, and an infant son; James M'William, died 19th September 1790, with his spouse Janet Dickson, his daughter Elizabeth, her husband James Gunnyon, innkeeper, Newabbey, the latter of whom died at that village 13th August 1836, aged 62, several of their children who died young, and Mary Gunnyon, who also died at Newabbey, 4th November 1872, aged 57; Andrew Black, innkeeper, died 26th March 1794, aged 68, with his two wives, Janet Miller and Jean Selkirk; William M'Naught, also an innkeeper, died 8th June 1802, aged 43, with his spouse Janet Gerran, their son John, died 20th August 1822, aged 42, and daughter-in-law Isabella Hayland; Riddell M'Naught, died 23d February 1802, aged 36, with his wife Mary Welsh; James Reid, died 20th May 1775, aged 51, who is represented as saying to his widow Helen Davidson, who is also named in the inscription:

"Grieve not for me, my sand is run,
The Lord hath called, His will be done;
When Christ appears I shall arise,
Unto that life that never dies!"

On a neat little table tombstone we find the name of Andrew M'Morine, painter, who is well remembered by many friends as a man of wonderful self-culture and metaphysical acumen. He died on the 10th of July 1850, at the early age of 42. Three children, all of whom died very young, are also mentioned in the inscription.

An infant son of William Hunter, merchant, who saw but one summer, that of 1770, lies cradled below a similar tombstone, which still prolongs the wail and reiterates the hope of his parents, in the following words:

"The tender branch that sleepeth here
Was much beloved by parents dear;
Few were his days, short was his race,
But heaven, we hope, 's his dwelling-place."

Of an old Excise officer, who must have had many a tussle with the bold adventurers who "ran" smuggled goods up the Solway, we find a memento on an adjoining table: it tells us of Leonard Fleming, Supervisor, who died 20th March 1775, at the venerable age of 83; also of his spouse Dorothy, whose own surname was the singular one of Sattethwaite; and of their daughter Margaret, who died at 65.

John Coltart of Areeming, died 11th January 1805, aged 69, and the following children are commemorated on an adjoining table : Joan, who died at 15, Mary at 20, Marion at 30, Jean at 30, John, a writer (date of age and death left blank) ; Mary Newall, the writer's wife ; also Barbara, sister of Mr. Coltart, senior, who died "at an advanced age," 18th April 1816, and "whose upright conduct," it is stated, "and goodness of heart were equalled by few, surpassed by none."

Robert Grainger, long a contemporary of the venerable Town-Clerk, Mr. Shortt, lies opposite to him, under a humble table tombstone. A tailor by trade, he during his latter years became a china-merchant, which business he prosecuted with success. Mr. Grainger was often chosen Convener of the Seven Trades, and lived respected to the ripe age of 85, his death occurring on the 10th of February 1845. When he was in his early prime (1806), and the Incorporated Crafts were in all their glory, he presented them with an enormous punch-bowl (capable of containing ten gallons)—a present that was quite *en regle* at that convivial period. It still survives, while the donor and the recipients, with hundreds of those who quaffed its contents on great gala occasions, have drained dry the cup of life itself, and here lie like clay that has not yet been fashioned into shape by the hands of the potter.

The stone commemorates also Sibella M'Math, wife of the deceased, who died in 1838. Both husband and spouse belonged to "the people called Methodists," and of her it is said "she died in the full triumph of faith." A prose enumeration of her virtues is followed by the subjoined epitaph in verse :

"A soul prepared needs no delays :
The summons comes, the saint obeys ;
Swift was her flight, and short her road :
She clos'd her eyes, and saw her God.
The flesh rests here till Jesus come,
And claims the treasure from the tomb."

We meet with some singular names on another altar-stone : Jean Bean, died 27th December 1780, aged 41, and Janet, her sister, died 23d December 1815, aged 73, daughters of Thomas Bean of Auchenhay ; and Dorcas Christian, wife of David Bean of Meikle-Frieth, died 26th December

1809, aged 70. William Sandilands, mason, died 5th February 1833, aged 67, is commemorated by a similar stone, with his two wives, Annie Wilkinson and Janet Milligan, and his son Robert, who died at 17. Another rises in memory of John Dickson, who plied his needle at the old protected trade of staymaking, died 11th February 1809, aged 45; of his wife, Alison Welsh, and three of their offspring; of his sister-in-law, Mary Howat, wife of David Dickson, died 6th March 1792, aged 56, and three of their children. With head low among others, lies George Walker, about the last of the old craft in Dumfries who made "beavers" for the heads of the people. He died at the venerable age of 87, on 13th March 1866; his spouse, Hannah M'Kay, and three children—an infant daughter, Joseph who died at 39, and Elizabeth at 44—resting beside him.

A neighbouring plot is occupied by three venerable altar monuments belonging to the Fergusons of Haugh. They commemorate Robert Ferguson, "a man of strict integrity and warm in his friendship," who died 15th June 1804, aged 84; his wife, Agnes Grierson; their daughters, Grizel who died at 25, and Sarah at 27: of whom it is said, in the inscription,

"God plants his flow'rs at his own time,
And plucks at any age;
Wherefore should parents then repine
When they're call'd off the stage?"

Still among the same class of table-stones, we find a stately one dedicated to an enterprising hosiery manufacturer, Mr. James Dinwiddie, who was for some time also a member of the Town Council. He died 11th August 1859, aged 55. Three of his sons are named in the inscription: James Paterson who died at 24, Adam Corrie at the same age, and Robert at 35; also a daughter, who died in infancy. Near by, two monuments rise in the burial plot of James Corson, baker and brewer (father of Provost Corson), who died 16th January 1831, aged 63; his wives, Grizel Smith and Jean Forsyth, with four children, being named with him upon the tablets.

In a railed compartment along the wall lie several members of an old Annandale house, whose head, Ruther, during the days of David I., gave name to a parish, Caer-Ruther, corrupted to Carruthers, and now annexed to the parish of Middlebie. A plain headstone, with gilt letters that keep it from being commonplace, commemorates "Henrietta Carruthers, eldest daughter of William Aikman Carruthers, Esq. of Dormont," who died in Edinburgh, 27th December 1861, aged 66, and "other members of the family, who are interred here," these being mentioned thus vaguely, without so much as having their names recorded. For the parishioners of St. Michael's, and especially the poorer portion of them, this monument possesses no ordinary interest, seeing that the special missionary services enjoyed by them since 1862 are due to Miss Henrietta Carruthers. Pious and benevolent during her earthly sojourn, she left her wordly means to promote in perpetuity the good works in which she took delight; a codicil to her will embodying a bequest of £1200, to maintain "an efficient missionary of the Gospel of Christ, one truly evangelical and properly qualified for the office, whose whole and undivided time shall be devoted to his missionary labours in the said parish." The administrators of the trust are the minister of St. Michael's, the Sheriff of Dumfriesshire and his Substitute, and the Provost of Dumfries.

Within another neighbouring enclosure appear a headstone and table. The former commemorates Robert Howat, merchant, died 5th April 1828 (no age given); Anne Jardine, his wife; two of their children; "Mrs. Jessie Stewart, relict of William Stewart, Esq. of Shambellie," died 25th June 1863, and buried in Sweetheart Abbey, where the dust of its foundress, Devorgilla, was also laid; Mrs. Margaret Biggar, relict of Robert Biggar, writer, died at St. Andrews, 1st September 1867, aged 80. The altar-stone is in memory of Thomas Lawson, preacher of the Gospel, died 19th February 1779 (date of age illegible); David, son of the above Robert Howat, died 6th January 1811, aged 25, and other members of the family.

A tall stately pillar, overlooking all the neighbouring stones, rises in this section to commemorate William M'Cracken of Lochvale, writer in Dumfries, whose death took place on the 2d of July 1818, when in his 62d year, and of Clementina, his wife, who long predeceased him, at the age of 30. In order to make assurance against oblivion doubly sure, little oval plates of brass, sunk in the plinth, recorded their names as well as the stone tablets; but one of them is so disfigured that it is illegible, and the other has been torn away! Of Mrs. M'Cracken's brief married life and its results it is pithily said: "She was near two years a wife; had two sons, William and James; the youngest predeceased her 32 days, the eldest survived her 22 hours, and was buried with her."

Near the above, rise a neat pillar of Dalbeattie granite, "In memory of John Hamilton, F.R.A.S., editor of the *Morning Star*, born in Dumfries, 29th September 1821, died at Windermere, 14th October 1860," and of his wife, Mary Blaind, who, dying at Aylesbury, is here interred. From being a printer's apprentice in the *Herald* office, and afterwards reporter for that journal and then for the *Standard*, Mr. Hamilton became editor of an Aylesbury newspaper. He managed it with such ability and success as to attract the notice of some of the Free-trade party, at whose instance he went into the busy field of London journalism; but the exactive labour which devolved upon him as conductor of the *Empire*, and ultimately of the *Star*, cut short his brilliant career at the early age of 39. The inscription states that the stone was "erected by his colleagues and other friends who admired his abilities, loved him for his many virtues, and highly esteemed his public labours."

In a neatly kept plot, overlooked by the pillar, lie some of Mr. Hamilton's forebears; his father, William Hamilton, a very decent, well-informed man, by trade a bookbinder, died 13th December 1833, aged 42; his mother, Catherine Arlington, with several of their other children; his grandfather, also named William, Deacon of the Shoemakers, died 22d December 1815, aged 68; the Deacon's spouse, Jean

M'Math, with several of their offspring: also Grace Martin Towler, "wife of the late John Hamilton, officer, Royal Navy," died 16th January 1859, aged 69.

Another older pyramid of red sandstone rears its head close by with an oval marble tablet dedicated to Robert MacDowall, died 10th March 1782, aged 19; and William MacDowall of Gategill, died 22d April 1788, aged 31. The monument is of a beautiful design, though, half-hidden by a neighbouring stone, it cannot be seen to advantage.

Several of the Thorburns of Kelton, belonging to the same family as the Barnkin Thorburns already noticed, lie in this neighbourhood, their names appearing as follows on a very stately edifice: William Thorburn, died 14th August 1790, aged 81, with Agnes Richardson his spouse; James, their son, died 16th November 1830, aged 72; John, an S.S.C., Edinburgh, died 10th February 1833, aged 59; and Robert, captain in the Dumfriesshire Militia, died 29th October 1855, aged 80.

Early in April 1807 there was an imposing military display at a spot which is marked by a headstone bearing the subjoined inscription, with other lines that are now illegible:

"Sacred to the memory of Sergeant Wm. Wright, of the Royal Westmoreland Militia, who departed this life on the 30th day of March 1807, aged 37 years. The regiment, to evince their esteem for him while living and to perpetuate him now dead, have erected this stone to his memory, conceiving it the only way of proving how much they deplore and lament the loss of an honest, faithful, and worthy comrade."

Overlooked by several imposing fabrics, lies the humble and neglected memento of a lady regarding whom we know little, though her husband, Collector John Mitchell, was closely and lovingly associated with the national bard, as his superior Excise officer at Ellisland and Dumfries. About six months before Burns died, he addressed to Mr. Mitchell the well-known epistle, intimating that "One pound one, I sairly want it;" and it may be looked upon as certain that the request was readily complied with. We do not know where the "friend of the poet, tried and leal," found a grave; but the memorial stone which bears his honoured name has tumbled down from its supports, and we should like much to see it set up anew. Below the prose inscription we read the following exulting lines, which are by no means out of place, even though the slab that bears them looks dishonoured and forlorn :

"Death wounds to cure : we fall, we rise, we reign ;
Spring from our fetters ; fasten in the skies,
Where blooming Eden withers in our sight :
The King of Terrors is the Prince of Peace."

Near by, close to the Mausoleum of Burns, rises a monumental table in memory of John M'Kinnell, for some time bookseller in Dumfries, a man of worth, intelligence, and great mechanical ingenuity. Long prior to his death he resided in London, that he might promote the business success of one of his inventions, a celebrated ventilating apparatus, which is still in much request. Mr. M'Kinnell died on the 15th of March 1867, aged 63. The stone also commemorates his wife, Agnes Brydone, and their daughter Margaret. Under another table lies one whose pictorial "counterfeit presentment" fittingly adorns the Court-house of Maxwelltown—James Shortridge, long the popular provost of that burgh, died 20th June 1841, aged 64 ; also his spouse, Susan M'Lauchlan, and their infant son. A third altar-stone bears the names of John Fraser, merchant, died 25th February, 1793, aged 81 ; of his spouse, Sarah Birnie, and several of their children.

Agnes Lee, wife of Charles Graham, died 23d November 1859, aged 65 ; four of their children, including George, railway clerk, died at 38, and four of his offspring, are commemorated on a handsome adjoining structure : it is stated of him that "He lived beloved and died regretted." In front rises a stone on which Lieutenant Charles Gepp Robinson, R.N., bereft of two infant children, records his loss and source of consolation :

"Rest, my beloved boys. You are called away ere this world's sin could tarnish your bright hue."

BOISE FAMILY HISTORY CENTER
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CHAPTER VIII.

THE MAUSOLEUM.

WHEN the dramatists are about to bring a great conqueror or hero king upon the stage, they prepare the spectators for his advent by a grand burst of music,

> "Sound the trumpets, beat the drums,
> See the conquering hero comes!"

But we have only to exclaim

> "*Hic Jacet* ROBERT BURNS!"

In order to draw forth general heart-loyalty and reverence devout, as we point to the palatial tomb at the south-east corner of the Cemetery, "fit homage of earth's proudest isle," given to the bard-peasant and the peerless prince of lyrical poets. Of all the monuments raised in honour of departed greatness throughout the world there is none whose shape is so familiar to the public eye as this, except perhaps the Waverley monument in Edinburgh, and we may safely say there is none that awakens such a deep feeling of interest. It is in the form of a Grecian temple: it would possibly have been more appropriate if a design in the Scotch baronial style had been adopted; yet, Burns, as stated in the inscription on his bust at the Industrial School in the street which bears his name, was the "Poet of mankind" as well as of his country. and it is perhaps better therefore that a tomb of cosmopolitan type should enshrine his dust.

Burns resided in Dumfries from the close of 1791 till his death on the 21st of July 1796. The attractive spell which genius such as his bestows upon all the material things among which it tabernacles was thus showered down in no stinted measure upon the ancient Burgh. More especially did the Burial-ground whose memorials we are describing become sacred above all other cemeteries, to Scotchmen at least, when it received within its bosom the "priceless heritage" of his remains. Prior to 1796 the Churchyard was no ordinary place of sepulture : after the sad summer of that year missed the music of his songs, and then shed dew-drops above his lowly bed, old St. Michael's acquired a world-wide interest, becoming indeed one of "The Delphian vales, the Palestines, the Meccas of the mind ;" the hallowing influence acquiring fresh intensity when, nineteen years afterwards, the goodly structure now under notice was erected over the poet's grave.

The movement, which brought about such a magnificent result, had a very small beginning, and it was originated by the following circular, now published, we believe, for the first time, "written by Mr. William Grierson in company with Mr. John Syme :"

SIR,—It has long been a subject of regret, and indeed a reflection against Scotland, that nothing yet has been done to perpetuate the memory, and do honour to the genius of its native bard, ROBERT BURNS, by marking the spot where his ashes rest. There can be no doubt but that, if a public subscription was opened, under the management of a respectable committee, a very liberal sum would soon be procured, in aid of that already promised from abroad, to erect a Monument at his grave, in St. Michael's Churchyard, Dumfries. A few of the friends and admirers of BURNS having lately taken the affair into consideration, concluded that the most proper method would be to invite a meeting of such gentlemen as might be disposed to promote the measure, to take place in the George Inn, on Thursday, the 16th December, at two o'clock afternoon, in order to name a committee, and to adopt such resolutions as may appear best calculated to carry into effect so desirable an object. It is therefore hoped you will find it convenient to attend the meeting on the above mentioned day.

Dumfries, 29th Novr., 1813.*

To the appeal thus made only eighteen gentlemen responded literally by appearing at the meeting on the 16th of December, but it touched the chords of the national heart ; and those who made up the number were all influential persons, including John Syme, who fittingly presided as the attached friend of Burns ; William Miller of Dalswinton ; William Grierson ; Henry Duncan, the accomplished minister of Ruthwell ; Thomas Duncan, minister of the New Church

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* Dr. Grierson, son of the late secretary to the Burns's Mausoleum Fund, kindly favoured us with a copy of this circular, and also with the loan of a beautiful coloured engraving of Mr. Hunt's design for the Mausoleum, both which, with many other Burns's relics, enrich the Doctor's well-known Museum at Thornhill.

(now Greyfriars'); William M'Lellan of Keltonhead; Gabriel Richardson, ex-Provost, with whom the poet long lived on intimate terms; and Adam Rankine, who had always a shoulder ready to put to the proverbial wheel when it required a push forward in the right direction. The Rev. H. (afterwards Dr.) Duncan and Mr. Grierson were appointed secretaries, the main burden of the business, however, devolving on the latter, who gave his services with unbounded enthusiasm. Soon money for the fund began to flow in liberally from all quarters—from abroad as well as from home, and from "huts where poor men lie" not less than from the palaces of nobles and kings. In due time several competent designs for the memorial edifice were received by the committee. The one which they selected was furnished by Mr. T. F. Hunt of London, who, emulating Burns's own unselfishness, refused to take a farthing for his work, considering that the honour of associating his name with the national bard in such a way was recompense enough. As originally drawn, the design bore four oblong, graceful sarcophagi placed over those parts of the entablature of the Mausoleum that touch each of the twin pillars by which the dome and its accompaniments are supported; but these stone chests were omitted, and we think wisely, as they have a somewhat heavy aspect, and if they had been introduced they would have interfered with the noble simplicity of the structure.

Burns, in the dedication of his first volume, says: "The Poetic Genius of my country found me, as the prophetic bard Elijah did Elisha, at the plough; and threw her inspiring mantle over me." It was rightly thought that a marble embodiment of this fine idea would form a fitting ornament for the interior; and Signor Turnerelli, an Italian artist, was entrusted with the task. As he proceeded with the figures they were critically inspected by a committee, including the poet's brother Gilbert, who expressed himself satisfied with the appearance of the inspiring divinity and the airy lightness of her attire; and, guided by his correct eye and retentive memory, the sculptor (who had, we believe, never seen the poet) was enabled to render the principal figure wonderfully faithful. Though the statuary is not of the highest class, it gratifies all but fastidious hypercritics by the expressive way in which it tells its momentous tale to admiring eyes and sympathetic hearts. The foundation-stone of the Mausoleum was laid on the 5th of June 1815, and the building was completed in the following September, the entire cost amounting to about £1500.

When the tomb was finished, it was still an imposing casket without its congenial gem, or like a gorgeous throne without an occupant. The solemn duty of conveying the dust of Burns from the north-east corner to the new home provided for it by the nation was devolved upon four gentlemen —Mr. William Grierson, the secretary to the committee; Mr. James Thomson, superintendent of the monument; Mr. Milligan, builder; and Mr. James Bogie, gardener, Terraughty. We have never seen any adequate reason assigned for having this delicate, yet highly honourable, process of exhumation and reinterment done privily and as it were by stealth. However, a secret, quiet mode of procedure, which had some slight advantages of its own, was resolved upon; and accordingly the above named gentlemen, an hour or two before "the witching time" of midnight, on the 19th of September 1815, hied to the spot pointed out in a previous chapter, and, aided by a small body of workmen, laid bare the earthen bed in which the poet, after "life's fitful fever," had "slept well" since 1796. Beside him lay the remains of his two young sons, Maxwell Burns and Francis Wallace Burns. The coffins of the boys were nearly entire, and, after being placed in shells, were carried to the Mausoleum vault; but in the case of the bard "the chest that had neither key nor lock" had been already tampered with by the rifling fingers of decay. At first sight the venerated contents seemed marvellously perfect, suggesting the idea of one who had just sunk into the slumber of death, the lordly forehead of the dreamless sleeper still rising arched and high, the "dome of thought" covered with hair still dark as a raven's wing, and the teeth retaining all their original regularity and whiteness. "The scene," we are told, "was so imposing that most of the workmen stood bare and uncovered, and at the same time felt their frames thrilling with some indefinable emotion as they gazed on the ashes of him whose fame is as wide as the world itself. But the effect was momentary; for when they proceeded to insert a shell or case below the coffin, the head separated from the trunk, and the whole body, with the exception of the bones, crumbled into dust."* Ere yet the advancing morn had empearled the east, the precious relics on which the gloaming of the day and the lamps carried by the party had faintly glimmered, were hid from sight in the darkness of their new tenement.

Not finally, however, as on the night preceding the burial of "Bonnie Jean" (31st March 1834), the remains of the poet were viewed by a party of gentlemen, including Provost Murray, Mr. Archibald Hamilton, writer, Rector M'Millan, Mr. James Bogie, Mr. Andrew Crombie, builder, Mr. John M'Diarmid of the *Courier*, and Dr. Archibald Blacklock, who visited the vault in order to obtain a cast of the skull for a phrenological purpose. Dr. Blacklock in reporting upon the subject states that the cranium was found in a high state of preservation, the bones of the face and palate being also sound; "and some small portions of black hair with a very few gray hairs intermixed, were observed while detaching some extraneous matter from the occiput." The skull was carried away to the house of Mr. Kerr, plasterer (in North Queensberry Street, now occupied by his son Mr. William M'Diarmid Kerr) and a plaster matrix was taken of it by his assistant, Mr. James Fraser, afterwards Bailie Fraser.† Two or three tiny tresses that had adhered to the napkin in which the cranium was wrapped were retained, as priceless souvenirs of the illustrious dead. After being a few hours out of the vault the skull was replaced—all the nocturnal operations having been completed as the clock of St Michael's chimed the hour of one. Yet another time the cranium was reverentially seen and handled by other visitors to the vault, when Burns's eldest son was buried in May 1857 : little change upon it was visible, and before it was redeposited the enclosing casket of lead was filled with pitch to secure the preservation of the relic for ages to come.

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* M'Diarmid's *Picture of Dumfries*, p. 86.

† A cast of the skull having been transmitted to the Phrenological Society of Edinburgh, Mr. George Combe drew up from it a report on the cerebral development of the poet. The cranium was 22¼ inches in circumference; from ear to ear vertically over the top of the head, 14 inches; length, 8 inches; greatest breadth, nearly 6. "These measurements," says Mr. Combe, "exceed the average of Scotch living heads, *including the integuments*, for which four-eighths of an inch may be allowed."

Mrs. Burns survived her husband thirty-eight years. "When young, she must have been a handsome, comely woman, if not indeed a beauty, when the poet saw her for the first time, on a bleach-green at Mauchline, engaged like Peggy and Jenny at Habbie's Howe ;" and during her protracted widowhood she was much honoured by our community, and by hosts of strangers, who came from all parts to see her for her husband's sake, and, who if favoured with an interview, could not but admire her on her own account, she was so artless, warm-hearted, sensible, simple-minded, homely, yet refined. Dying on the 26th of March 1834, her interment took place on the 1st of the following month, the immense concourse of persons present, and other circumstances connected with it, reminding many of the poet's funeral.

"So great," says Mr. M'Diarmid, "was the anxiety to enter the Mausoleum that the pressure, in the first instance, occasioned a slight degree of confusion ; but in a minute or two order was restored, and the body lowered slowly and solemnly into the family vault. The chief mourners then descended, took the stations assigned them, and after everything had been adjusted placed the coffin in a grave dug to the depth of four feet. Five relatives attended the interment ; viz.—Mr Robert Burns, eldest son of the poet ; Mr. Robert Armour, the widow's brother ; and the husbands of three nieces, the Messrs Irving, and Mr. M'Kinnel. But there were other chief mourners, and among those we observed Mr Dunlop of Southwick, Provost Murray, Dr. John Symons, Mr. Bogie, and Mr. M'Diarmid. The grave was covered in a brief space ;

the chief mourners then withdrew; and after everything foreign had been removed from the vault, the executors gave the necessary directions for restoring the large stone which guards the entrance to the tomb of our great national poet. As this was a task of considerable labour, hours elapsed before it could be completed, and in the interim thousands had an opportunity of gratifying their curiosity by taking a parting look at the resting-place of genius."

Of nine children born by Mrs. Burns—five sons and four daughters—two of the former, and the whole of the latter died in infancy. All the three who grew up to man's estate—Robert, the eldest, and who most resembled his father in appearance, Lieutenant-Colonel James Glencairn, and Lieutenant-Colonel William Nicol—lived up to or beyond the measure of existence allotted by the royal Psalmist; and when they died, they were, with honours due, buried beside their parents. Within the high iron railing by which the Mausoleum is enclosed, there are severals inscriptions, each of which we must copy. A marble tablet on the left bears the following record:

"This tablet is erected by Major James Glencairn Burns, E.I.C.S., to the memory of Sarah Robinson, his wife, died at Neemuch (East Indies), 7th November 1821, aged 24 years. Jean Isabella, his daughter, died at sea, 5th of June 1823, aged 4 years 5 months. Robert Shaw, his son, died at Neemuch, 11th of December 1821, aged eighteen months. Mary Beckett, his wife, died at Gravesend, Kent, 13th November 1844, aged 52.

Lieut -Colonel James G. Burns, born at Dumfries, 12th August 1794, died at Cheltenham, 18th Nov. 1865. His remains rest in the vault beneath this tablet."

A companion tablet on the right is thus inscribed:

"This tablet is erected by Lieut.-Colonel William Nicol Burns E.I.C.S., to the memory of his wife, Catherine Adelaide Crone, who died at Kulludghev, in the East Indies, on the 29th of June 1841.

Colonel William Nicol Burns, born at Ellisland, 9th April 1791, died at Cheltenham, 21st Feby. 1872. His remains rest in the vault beneath this tablet."

Soon after the reinterment of the poet, the original tombstone placed over his remains by his sorrowing widow was laid in the vault; but afterwards, with better taste, it was deposited in front of the sculpture, where it can be readily seen without the risk of being trodden upon. Baldly prosaic, yet eloquently simple, is the inscription :

"In memory of
ROBERT BURNS,
who died the 21st July 1796,
in the 37th year of his age."*

This brief notice is the only epitaph, if such it may be called, commemorative of Burns. A grand Latin inscription was drawn up, to announce that the Mausoleum had been raised "In æternum honorem Roberti Burns, Poetarum, Caledoniæ ;" but it was never used, and it is just as well, neither learned inscription nor popular epitaph being needed by the man whose fame has been blazoned over all the world, and

"Whose own proud songs, through distant ages sent,
Shall form at once his dirge and monument."

Other words upon the stone follow those already quoted, to intimate that it was also erected in memory of the poet's two boys,

"Maxwell Burns, who died the 25th April 1799, aged 2 years and 9 months ; Francis Wallace Burns, who died the 9th July 1803, aged 14 years."

The subjoined intimations were added at different periods afterwards :

"Also the remains of Jean Armour, Relict of the Poet, born Feby. 1765, died 26th March 1834 ; and Robert, his eldest son, who died on the 14th May 1857, aged 70 years."

Yet another tablet claims the notice of the visitor before he withdraws from the precincts of the poet's shrine. It is dedicated to James M'Clure, a faithful friend of Burns, who waited as an attendant upon his deathbed, and gave material assistance to Cromek when preparing his "Reliques of Burns," published in 1808. A flat stone placed over his remains, on the right of the entrance, is thus inscribed :

"Sacred to the memory of James M'Clure, who died 2d November 1813, aged 50 years ; a man who by his punctuality, his integrity, his benevolence, and the uniform uprightness of his character, conferred respectability on the humble situation of a letter-carrier. He was the constant and faithful friend of the Poet Burns, and after his death was most active and successful in his endeavours to promote the interests of the family. (Pref. Cromek's Reliques). Also, Jean

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* A mistake in the inscription for the 38th year.

Heughan, his wife, who died 29th September 1815, aged 60 years. Also, Nicholas Heughan, who died 28th July 1837, aged 74 years. Permitted to be placed here at the request of the Family of the Poet."

Within the enclosure of the Mausoleum, two Scotch thistles—fine specimens of "the symbol dear"—and four tall bushes, one at each corner, bearing "green, slender, leaf-clad holly boughs," such as crowned the Coila of the poet's vision, are appropriately placed; during summer prime the sward is also "pranked" with primroses, "the firstlings of the year," and other simple flowers cultured or wild; while an umbrageous weeping ash furnishes a natural drapery for the tomb behind. Among the hundreds of persons from a distance who come here annually to offer the tribute of admiration or "pay the meed of a melodious tear," many beg earnestly for a memorial twig, or even leaf or tuft of grass, from the natural garniture of the poet's grave, and if favoured with the same by the keeper, go their way pensive, yet rejoicing. One of the best poems ever written in honour of Burns was inspired by "viewing the remains of a rose brought from Alloway Kirk;" and who can tell what floods of emotional feeling have been drawn from the fountains of the human heart by these simple mementoes of his sepulchre at Dumfries, even after they have become "withered flower and leaf?"*

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* Since the completion of the Mausoleum many illustrious men, from all parts of the world, have stood beneath its dome, paying homage due to the still more illustrious dead. No album has been kept, in which their names, with those of other visitors, might have been entered; had there been such it would have been perhaps the most precious collection of autographs ever made. So far as is known, the most distinguished foreigner of our own day who visited the shrine was M. Louis Kossuth; and fortunately a notice of the interesting event has been preserved in the local newspapers. When all Europe was ringing with the fame of the ex-Governor of Hungary, he delivered an eloquent address in Dumfries on the evening of the 19th December 1856; and next day, before his departure, he, accompanied by his aide-de-camp, Colonel Ihaz, the Rev. Dr. Julius Wood, and Bailie John Payne, proceeded to the Cemetery. "M. Kossuth," says the *Standard*, "entered into the Mausoleum with reverent step, and as if absorbed by the intensity of his thoughts. He gazed long in pensive sadness at the figures of the ploughman-poet and of Coila, and then earnestly conversed with his Hungarian companion in their own Magyar tongue, that possibly being the language in which he could best give vent to his pent-up feelings. Kossuth at the grave of Burns—the patriot chief dropping a tear over the dust of the

The house in which Burns died, and which was purchased by his family, was for many years prior to 1872 rented by the Education Society as a residence for their teacher; and in accordance with a settlement made by Colonel William Nicol Burns, who died in the spring of that year, the house was gifted to the Society, on condition that they should keep it and the Mausoleum in good repair. The Dumfries Burns Club have also some right of custodiership, not strictly defined, over the Mausoleum; and its keeper, Mr John Tait, the sexton of St. Michael's, pays the club a small yearly tribute for the right to show the shrine and levy a small charge on visitors; the sum being now fixed at 3d each, instead of an undefined gratuity as was formerly the case.*

With the name of Robert Burns, that of Jessie Lewars will always be associated. Residing with his fellow-exciseman, her brother, in St. Michael Street, near the poet's house, she made it a second home, her affectionate nature, artless manners, and acquired accomplishments rendering her a favourite guest with its inmates. Burns's "hours of ease" received new zest from her society; she helped to soothe his sorrows by playing on the piano those sweet Scotch airs to which many of his own lyrics had been lovingly wedded; and when the poet lay on his death-bed, she was to him the "one seraph left on earth," of which he wrote prophetically in the celebrated epigram penned by him in her praise. Of two other epigrams and two songs by Burns, "Oh wert thou in the

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patriot bard! What a subject for a poet! Will no lyre awake under the inspiration of such a theme? The illustrious stranger was shewn also the tombs of the martyrs, and their story, as recalled to him by Dr. Wood, interested him deeply."

* A meeting of the Dumfries Burns Club was held in the summer of 1875, "to consider a recommendation by the Magistrates, Heritors, and Kirk-session, to impose a charge of 3d. for each person admitted to the Mausoleum, and to cancel an existing arrangement by which the Club receive £2 annually from the sexton as the rent of the Mausoleum. The meeting approved of the uniform charge of 3d., but could not agree to cancel the arrangement betwixt the sexton and the Club, as they had to pay 21s. annually for a professional inspection and report on the Mausoleum and Burns's House. They, however, agreed to hand the balance of this sum over to the Education Society, to assist in maintaining the Mausoleum in proper repair.—*Dumfries Courier.*

cauld blast," and "Here's a health to ane I lo'e dear"—Miss Lewars was the heroine.

When Mrs. Burns became a widow, she possessed no more trusted friend than the lady who had with untiring devotedness ministered to her illustrious husband in his last illness; and when nearly sixty years afterwards, she, in her own widowhood, as Mrs Thomson, passed away, according to a beautiful arrangement, she was buried next door, as it were, to the Mausoleum, beside her old neighbours, Burns and his Bonnie Jean. The tomb-stone, which is fixed in the wall on the south side, bears the following words:

> "In memory of James Thomson, Writer in Dumfries, who died 5
> 74 May, 1849, aged 75. Jessie Lewars, his Spouse, who died 26th May,
> 1855, aged 77, and of their Sons, James Thomson, who died August,
> 1820, aged 20; John Thomson, who died 17th April 1837, aged 34;
> Thomas Thomson, who died 5th August, 1825, aged 15; Alexander
> Thomson, Writer, who died 18th March, 1859, aged 44; William
> Thomson, who died at Cape of Good Hope, 8th December, 1859,
> aged 52."

Another more enduring epitaph on the lady remains, presented to her by Burns when she was suffering from indisposition while waiting upon his death-bed, and which, he said good-humouredly, would provide for the worst:

"Say, sages, what's the charm on earth
Can turn Death's dart aside?
It is not purity and worth,
Else Jessie had not died."

On quitting the precincts of the poet's tomb, we say with Campbell:

"Farewell, high chief of Scottish song!
That could'st alternately impart
Wisdom and rapture in thy page,
And brand each vice with satire strong;
Whose lines are mottoes of the heart,
Whose truths electrify the sage.

"Farewell, and ne'er may envy dare
To wring one baleful poison drop
From the crush'd laurels of thy bust;
But while the lark sings sweet in air,
Still may the grateful pilgrim stop
To bless the spot that holds thy dust."

CHAPTER IX.

THE SOUTHERN WALL AND WALK.

LEAVING the immediate vicinity of the Mausoleum, we proceed in a southern direction to view the monuments on the wall and others confronting them on the north side of the walk. After passing a neat headstone raised in memory of John Inman, accountant, died 29th October 1835, aged 37, his wife Mary Ann Thorburn, and their young daughter Mary, we reach a unique and imposing structure set into the south-east corner, a scroll on which commemorates Hannah, wife of John Walker, gentleman, of Pott Hall, Pottshrigley, Cheshire; their daughter Sarah; the husband of the latter, John Hinchsliffe, died 12th August 1807, aged 47—their children, Archibald died in infancy, Hannah at 6, Charles at 25, Samuel at 20, Clement at 32. A second scroll bears the names of Archibald died in infancy, Archibald at 14, Isabella at 20, Hannah at 24, and John at 5, the children of Joseph Hinchsliffe, for many years jeweller in Dumfries.

On entering the pathway we find it for the most part lined on each side with large, handsome monuments, pilastered, pedimented, and urned, each with its burial plot railed in, and not a few displaying bushes of cypress, yew, arbor vitae, or holly, whose foliage, though appropriately sombre, does more than the architecture, fine though that is, to beautify the scene. We do not need to read the literature of the stones in order to learn that members of the social "upper ten," low enough now alas! lie buried here. What aristocratic Castle Street was to the Burgh fifty years ago, the lower part of the Southern Walk is to St Michael's, not a few who dwelt in the former now occupying lodgings in the "cold, cold ground" of the latter, these also affording a resting-place to several other still more wealthy patricians who took rank among the suburban gentry of a former generation. Not for opulence only were some of them noted;

but also for high intelligence, public spirit, benevolence, and philanthropy.

A neat erection on the wall, with marble tablet and granite pillars, commemorates James Charteris, infant son of William H. Gornal, formerly merchant in Dumfries. On a handsome monument, with double canopy, we read the names of Christopher Johnstone, joiner, long a devoted member of the New Church Session, died 12th March 1843, aged 66; of his wife Winnifred, sister of Convener Grainger; and eight of their offspring: James, who died in infancy, Winnifred at 12, Thomas at 37, Mary at 40, Agnes at 43, Henry at 48, Anderina at 54, and Sibella at 61. Four children of our worthy townsman. Mr. Robert Johnstone, printer, son of Christopher, all of whom died young, are also named upon the monument.

In the adjoining plot lies Bailie Jacob Hellon, clothier, died 25th February 1865, aged 70, one of a few enterprising Englishmen who during the current century acquired business success and municipal honours in the Burgh; also his wife Harriet Drysdale; the neat monument which bears their names commemorating also seven of their offspring, all laid low when young, the oldest, Edward Thomas, having been only seven years of age.

Nearly all the monuments which come next under notice are Gothic in design, of local red sandstone, and painted white. The one first reached, however, is of granite, massive, severely-simple in its aspect, and surmounted by a sarcophagus. On its tablet is a name which recalls the figure of an active, bustling, enterprising, and warm-hearted gentleman. For about forty years prior to 1850 Dumfries had few more useful citizens than he who is the subject of the following epitaph:—

"Sacred to the memory of Adam Rankine, Esquire, who died on the 9th August 1859, aged 82. During many eventful years he took an active part in public affairs; and it was chiefly by his meritorious exertions that the Dumfries Artillery Volunteers, of which he was Captain, were formed and equipped in 1804, when the enemy threatened to land upon our shores. Ab uno disce omnes" [from a single instance infer the whole.]

His wife, well characterised as "the amiable Sarah M'Kenzie," who predeceased him in 1840, is also commemorated on the monument. Born at New Galloway, Mr. Rankine came to Dumfries when quite a youth, and before he had been many years in his new place of abode, his shrewdness, geniality, energy, and general force of character, secured for him a flourishing business, a high social position, and a host of friends. As mentioned in his epitaph, when the French threatened to pay this country a hostile visit, and the defiant strain "Does haughty Gaul invasion threat?" was sung in festive circles with a fuller appreciation than we can now attach to it, he turned the patriotic feeling to practical account by the formation of a Volunteer Artillery corps, of which he was made chief officer. A contemporary assures us that a finer looking man than Captain Rankine in uniform, at the head of his company, could scarcely have been found. A bailie as well as a captain, he proved to be a skilful director of municipal affairs. On Dumfries falling into financial difficulties, he and others who were summoned to the rescue won credit for themselves by redeeming that of the Burgh; and as Governor of the local Savings' Bank, he was for many years the principal prop and stay of that institution.

To John Barker, an accomplished medical gentleman, who was provost of the Burgh in 1817-8-9; his spouse, Margaret Battaley; and several members of their family, the next stone is devoted. He died on the 27th of February 1824, aged 66. With Mr. Rankine, whom he now neighbours in the tomb, Provost Barker was associated in the task of restoring the financial edifice of the Burgh under the circumstances described in a preceding chapter. For this delicate duty he seems to have been admirably adapted. "He was decidedly a man of business," says Mr. M'Diarmid in his "Picture of Dumfries," "as well as a man of science and admitted ability in his own profession; and having some leisure he applied himself most sedulously to the disentanglement and rearrangement of the town's affairs. . . That he had coadjutors who entered into his views and tendered their assistance we cordially admit, and willingly believe, but still we cling to the opinion that Mr. Barker, in modern times, was our greatest financial reformer, and that his successors in office have profited largely by his example and exertions."

Two infant children of Provost Barker, and two others who reached manhood, are named in the inscription, James who died at 33, and John who died at 48; also an infant son of the latter; while sidestones commemorate "Mrs. Barker, widow of T. B. Barker," died 4th October 1868, and Agnes, infant daughter of David Barker of Woodland.

Adjoining lie the relics of another chief magistrate, David Armstrong, a man of rare attainments as a solicitor, and who made a very good provost—his burghal rule extending over 1837-8-9-40. He belonged to a leading legal firm, whose other head, Robert Murray, also occupied the civic chair, and whose dust slumbers in the same section. Provost Armstrong died on the 17th of August 1846, aged 48. A son, Charles Armstrong, who followed his father's profession at Dumfries, and afterwards at Annan, and a daughter, Jane Elizabeth Armstrong, both exceedingly amiable, are also, with other children, named in the inscription—the former dying in 1856, at the age of 28, and the latter in the following year, at the age of 27. The record also commemorates their mother, "Dinah Elizabeth Anne, relict of the above David Armstrong, and widow of the late Benjamin Burnley, of Methley, Yorkshire, who died at Eastbourne, Sussex, 20th August 1872, aged 73 years." Rather more than half a century since, the lady whose name has just been mentioned was the heroine of a romantic episode, with which the Burgh rang for many months; the chief incidents in it being her unwilling betrothal to a Leith merchant, her marriage to Mr. David Armstrong, a deadly quarrel between the rivals, involving a challenge and a law-suit. Mrs. Armstrong, whose wedded life was begun under such sensational circumstances, proved a good wife to the future Provost, and as the monument states, bore to him several children: she survived him, and late in life was married again to a wealthy gentleman of Yorkshire. Her father was James Grieve, a prosperous wine-merchant, who occupied the old premises called "The

Pillars," which stood at the corner between High Street and Bank Street.

The Southern Walk presents no finer monument than the neighbouring one, on which several notable names appear. It is consecrated to the memory of Grace, daughter of Dr. William Babington (a respected minister of the Episcopalian Church, Dumfries); of her husband, Alexander Melville of Hallfields, Fifeshire, M.D.; their issue: William, who died at Austin, in Texas, aged 25; Janet, aged 20; and Alexander Charles, who died in childhood. Mrs. Melville died on the 13th of January 1823, aged 42. Dr. Melville, who bore high repute as a physician, married secondly Agnes Maxwell, daughter of Wellwood Maxwell of Barncleuch, regarding whom we had much to say in a preceding chapter. His death occurred on the 9th of August 1842, when he was aged 56, and the inscription shews that his widow outlived him till 19th August 1858, when she died at the age of 76.

In this section rest two worthy gentlemen, who at various periods occupied Castledykes, the finest mansion of the suburbs—namely, Ebenezer Stott, died 5th May 1828, aged 70, and John M'Adam, died 9th July 1836, aged 62. To the first of these gentlemen the credit is due of making the grounds about the house a "thing of beauty." He found them a rugged quarry (whence many of the tombstones of St. Michael's cemetery were hewn) with desolate surroundings of water-pools, moss, and rock, and he left them blossoming as the rose. Mr. M'Diarmid, in describing, more than forty years ago, what had been done for the place by Mr. Stott, at a cost of not less than £20,000, says: "The soil in the centre is wholly forced, and the proprietor, who spared no expense in adorning a spot which he preferred to all others, even after making the tour of Britain, and which he enjoyed for too short a period, paid a hundred guineas to the town of Dumfries for the privilege of baring to the depth of a few inches a small section of the Kingholm Merse. Even in churchyards mother earth scarcely brings a higher price. Castledykes is the admiration of all strangers. A mount within the policy takes the name of Paradise ; and were Castledykes ours, we would apply the epithet to the whole domain." While contrasting this picture with the gloom of the sepulchres we see around, it is consolatory to reflect that the most charming spots on earth are but as the tents of Kedar to the Promised Land, though the heavenly Paradise can only be reached through the portal of the grave.

A very stately monument, the same in design as that of Mr. Stott of Castledykes, rises up beside it to commemorate his brother Watson Stott of Kelton, Kirkcudbrightshire, died 22d October 1822, aged 67, and the wife of the latter, Sarah Taylor. Each structure is emblazoned with an escutcheon and the motto, " Alta Petit."

Since Mr. M'Diarmid's description of Castledykes was written, the place has been rendered increasingly attractive by subsequent proprietors, Mr. M'Adam, Mr. John Buchan Hepburn, Mr. Robert Scott, and Dr. Bruce. Mr. M'Adam had a humble origin. Bearing pastoral crook as a boy on the hills of Carsphairn, he at an early age left his fleecy charge and home for a land where more wool grows on bushes than on sheep's backs ; and as a cotton merchant in New York and afterwards at Liverpool he amassed a fortune, settling down to enjoy it in this palatial retreat on the banks of Nith, where he died after occupying it only eight brief years. We have heard that he possessed a nicety of touch which enabled him to discriminate between different classes of cotton wool as if by magic, and that to this gift much of his business success was due ; but he was of the stuff from which "self-made men" are fashioned, shrewd, clever, careful, enterprising, and industrious.

Since so much has been said about Castledykes and its owners it may be as well to explain that its name is derived from the circumstance that it occupies the site of an old fortress which belonged to the Red Comyn ; hence the reference made by Burns :

> " The Thames flows proudly to the sea,
>   Where royal cities stately stand ;
> But sweeter far the Nith to me,
>   Where Comyns aince had high command."

Singular to say the present worthy proprietor of Comyn's old inheritance is a Bruce, his next door neighbour north is a Wallace (Mrs. Wallace, daughter of Provost Gabriel Richardson), and the tenant of the next house south bears the family patronymic of Devorgilla, whose son John Baliol competed with Bruce and Comyn for the Crown of Scotland : such an incidental conjunction of historical names would not be easily paralleled.

One of the last of the Trade Conveners, Allan Anderson, receives commemoration from an adjoining monument. Achieving merited success as a house painter, he was placed over the Incorporated Craftsmen in 1825, and it was partly out of compliment to him personally, that a splendid gold chain was presented by the Dumfries public to the Trades, with which to decorate their chief. The chain remains, though the system with which the glittering badge was associated has long since been broken up, and of all those by whom it was worn it must be said in the beautifully figurative language of Scripture, "The silver cord has been loosed, and the golden bowl been broken at the fountain." Mr. Anderson was also a County magistrate and proprietor of Whiteside. He died at Allanbank, 29th April 1856, aged 73.

On the stone appear also the names of his wife, Mary Berwick, and of eight of their children, three cut off when infants, Jessie who died at 11, Allan at 12, John who died at 32, James, who carried on his father's business, died 15th February 1840, aged 36 ; and David, an accomplished and devoted army surgeon, who fell a victim to his professional exertions during the Crimean war when attending the sick and wounded at Scutari 4th November 1854, aged 33. Allan Anderson's son-in-law, James Berwick, died 28th April 1860, aged 34, and two children of the latter, Jessie who died in babyhood, and Margaret when 14 years old, are also mentioned on the monument.

We have already spoken of several deceased persons who possess much more imposing and durable memorials than any placed over them in this Churchyard. Of none of these can this be said so emphatically as of the wedded pair whose burial-place is next arrived at. For one who muses intelligently beside it, thousands admiringly survey the Crichton Royal Institution, the proud monument which will bear the names of its founders to a remote posterity—long after, perhaps, their tombstone, stable though it seems, has crumbled into dust. Dr. James Crichton, to whom the district and the cause of humanity owe the erection of this asylum for minds diseased, served long under the East India Company, and returning home in 1808, he purchased Friars' Carse, which had been rendered famous over the world by the muse of Burns. There he dwelt till he died fifteen years afterwards, leaving the immense sum of £100,000 to be laid out for a beneficent purpose, "in any way that his dear wife thought proper," with the approval of other trustees specified in his settlement. The erection and endowment of a model house for the treatment of insane patients were resolved upon; hence the magnificent and "beneficent" Crichton Institution, which is seen crowning the crest of Mountainhall in the southern environs of the Burgh.

One of the two marble tablets on the monument is "Sacred to the memory of James Crichton, Esq. of Friars' Carse, who died on the third day of May 1823." The other bears the following inscription:

"Sacred to the memory of Elizabeth Crichton, eldest daughter of the late Sir Robert Grierson of Lag, Bart., widow of the late James Crichton, Esq. of Friars' Carse, and one of the trustees and executors of her husband, in which capacity she founded and endowed the Crichton Royal Institution for lunatics at Dumfries and the Crichton Grammar School at Sanquhar. Obiit. 11th Oct. 1862, aged 83 years."

There were but two removes between this lady and her ancestor, *the* Lag of persecuting memory; but they stood in other respects wide apart, she, all unlike him, having been virtuous and benevolent in life and at death deeply regretted.

A very respectable pair—William Burnside, upholsterer, and Maria Halcot—who lived together long after the date of their "golden wedding," receive commemoration from a neat monument adjoining. He died at 80, on 8th April 1873; his relict surviving him till 8th January 1876, when she was in her 83d year. Their son James, who died in childhood;

their other son William, commission agent, Castle-Douglas, died 11th May 1873, aged 58: the wife of the latter, Ann Balieff; and Ann Halcot, mother of Mrs. Burnside, sen., are also named in the inscription.

On the next stone we observe a lengthened obituary, comprising the names of William Forsyth; his wife, Christina Shaw; and the whole of their children, seven in number. Mr. Forsyth was brother of the late Mr. Philip Forsyth of Nithside, and like him a gentleman of intelligence and worth. After spending his earlier years as a West India planter, he resided on his estate at Ladyfield, Dumfries, where he died 29th November 1846, aged 49: of his issue, Mary died at 16, Eliza at 27, Frances at 18, Philip at 17, Leonora at 7, Christina Jane at 22; the last survivor being Ambrose, a fine young man, who, dying in Jamaica, 28th February 1870, at the age of 30, lies buried there, remote from kindred dust. Joseph Forsyth of Raffles, died 25th December 1825, aged 80; and his wife, Jane Costine, are named on another portion of the edifice.

We must pause for a minute at the next monument, commemorating as it does a man who was in more senses than one a merchant prince in our little Burgh. It rises "Sacred to the memory of James M'Whir," who died on the 1st of June 1839, in his 62d year; of his relict, Helen Hannah; of their daughter Helen; and also of the husband of the latter, John M'Turk, formerly of Pennersaughs, who died at Melbourne, 10th February 1855, aged 58. Mr. M'Whir took an active part in town affairs and in all matters pertaining to the port and its commerce he was a leading authority while he lived. If the Nith is not now a great avenue of trade he is not to blame: greatly through his exertions the Act of 1811, for straightening, deepening, and conserving the river, was passed by Parliament; and he presided over the committee of merchants who superintended the operations required by the Act. So much were his free-will services in this capacity appreciated by the Navigation Commissioners that they voted him a sum of 250 guineas. As further illustrative of the high position occupied by Mr M'Whir, we may mention that when our merchants met to celebrate the Reform Jubilee by a dinner on the 11th of Aug. 1832, he was called on to occupy the chair, and that his speech in proposing the toast of the evening vindicated the appointment, it being well worthy of the great occasion.

James Smith, long tenant of Nethertown, who belonged to a race of industrious farmers, lies in the next plot, died 19th February 1859, aged 69; the neat monument which commemorates him also recording the sad fate of his son, Thomas Maxwell, who, by the capsizing of a boat, was thrown into the river Nith near Kingholm Quay, and perished when in the "early youthful prime" of 17 years, 8th February 1840. Another son, George, who died in childhood, is also mentioned in the inscription.

Turning to the north side of the walk, we see two handsome monuments, raised respectively to commemorate Josephine Mundell Richardson and Mary Ann Richardson, daughters of Burns's friend, Provost Gabriel Richardson, of whom we shall have something to say on visiting the place where he lies buried, near the Mausoleum. The first named lady was the wife of Alexander Hannay, agent for the National Bank, long Treasurer of the Dumfries and Maxwelltown Education Society, first Chairman of the Dumfries School Board, and a gentleman of great worth and public usefulness, who, dying on the 2d of July 1874, aged 81, joined his partner in the tomb, after the long interval of 37 years. The other lady was married to John Burnet, wine merchant. She was thrown out of a gig, which mournful accident caused her death, when in the meridian of womanhood, on the 4th of October 1834: hence the quotation from Scripture which was placed on the monument by her sorrowing husband, "I take away from thee the desire of thine eyes with a stroke." The *Courier*, in commenting upon the sad accident, says: "We are not aware of a single occurrence since the fearful pestilence (of cholera) visited our shores that has cast a deeper gloom over the town of Dumfries than the sudden, violent, and much-lamented death of Mrs. John Burnet."

Between these monuments stand other two: the first of them in memory of Jemima Grierson, aged 10 years, and Jane Grierson, aged 24, and their mother, Jean Barron, died at Liverpool, 26th October 1856, aged 55; the second commemorating George Manuel of the East India Company's Service, died 3d December 1843, aged 70, and Elizabeth Hamilton, his spouse.

Repeated reference has been made by us to the Seven Trades and their shooting saturnalia. Rich reminiscences of these are suggested by the next stone, which is raised above the remains of Alexander Howat, butcher, who, as Convener of the Guild, ruled over it right jovially. On the 24th of April 1828 the famous Siller Gun was shot for by the Trades under his popular convenership—that being the very last time in which the Merse of Kingholm was occupied by the craftsmen when competing for King James's tiny trinket. Mr. Howat died on the 2d of July 1834, aged 64. The stone also bears the names of his spouse, Elizabeth M'Guffog, "an affectionate wife, a tender mother, and a sincere friend;" and of their children—Alexander, who died when 29; Charles Douglas, died at Kingston, Canada, when 28; Helen, when 44; Isabella, relict of Richard Jarrett, died at Hoboken when 57; Jessie, relict of John Connal, jun., died at the same age; also John, son of the latter, who died when 19. Fencing in the burial plot on the east side, stands a very handsome little monument, in memory of the worthy Convener's eldest son, William Howat, captain of the Royal Navy, who died on the 4th of December 1871, aged 73. The inscription states that he retired after nearly forty years of active service; "and by the undeviating rectitude of his conduct, both as a Christian and a gentleman, he gained the sincere esteem and friendship of all who knew him. He died universally respected and regretted." The stone is richly carved with crowns and anchors, the workmanship of Mr. William Flint, to indicate the service of which Captain Howat was a respected member.

On the next stone we find the name of a devoted preacher of the gospel, James Brown, the first minister placed over the

Cameronians of the town and district, after their erection into a regular charge. Never very robust, he overtasked his strength when visiting sufferers from cholera, during the dreadful epidemic of 1832; and, a martyr to duty, he died of consumption about eighteen months afterwards. His bereaved flock built this handsome monument to shew how much they esteemed him on his own account and for his work's sake, when "building them up in our most holy faith." The epitaph is in the following terms:—

"In memory of the Rev. James Brown, late pastor of the Reformed Presbyterian congregation, Dumfries, who died on the 26th of May 1834, in the 33d year of his age and the 3d year of his ministry. Conscientious and faithful in the discharge of all his duties; inflexible in his adherence to what he judged right; unsparing in his labours for the good of all around him; willingly subjecting himself to danger by his unremitting attentions to the afflicted during the fearful visitation of pestilence in 1832; and withal most gentle and amiable in his disposition; he was greatly beloved by all who knew him, and especially by his flock, who have erected this monument in token of the affection with which they cherish his memory."

The next monument marks an era in our municipal life, as well as the place among the dead occupied by a worthy and able man. Under the old pre-Reform system the rulers of the Burgh were to a large extent self-elected; but by a Bill which took effect on the first Tuesday of November 1833 the ten pound owners and occupiers were entrusted with the privilege of choosing the members of the Town Council, twenty-five in number. Among those returned on that memorable day was Mr. Robert Murray, writer. He and Mr. William Gordon, writer, received each 72 votes in their respective wards, none of the others obtaining so many. Of these, the first local representatives elected by popular suffrage, three still survive—Mr. W. Gordon, Mr. George Dunbar, and Mr. James Dinwiddie. When the Council met to distribute the honours of office, Mr. Robert Murray, whose tombstone we have now reached, was chosen as Chief-Magistrate by general acclamation. His rule was of very brief duration, lasting little more than six months, his life and career of public usefulness having been cut short when he was in the prime of manhood, to the great regret of the community. On the monument, which bears to have been erected by his brother, the late Rev. Andrew B. Murray of Mouswald, there is the subjoined inscription :

"In memory of Robert Murray, Esq., first Provost of Dumfries under the Municipal Reform Act. Elected unanimously, and died in office, 25th May 1834, in the 50th year of his age—much regretted."

A respected burgess, George Corson, brewer, is commemorated by the next stone, died 26th July 1841, aged 41 ; together with two of his children who were cut off in infancy, and a third, William, who died at 31.

Another man who was eminent in many diverse ways occupies the grave adjoining : his monument bears the following epitaph :

"In memory of John Commelin of King's Grange (Urr), for twenty-three years agent at Dumfries for the British Linen Company, who died in Dumfries on the 21st of March 1836, aged 67 years. Distinguished for his attainments as a classical scholar, a profound knowledge of the laws of his country, eloquence as a public speaker, sound judgment, and inflexible integrity, he lived esteemed and died lamented by all."

Mr. Commelin was a native of Kirkcudbright. "As a lawyer," says the *Courier*, "he was considered searching and sound ; as a pleader terse, sagacious, minute, with a richer vein of fancy than he chose to indulge ; while as a referee he redeemed the confidence so generally reposed in him by awards that did honour to his head and heart."

The twin tribes of Celts, Hibernian and Scottish, have representatives buried near by ; the stone over them commemorating Major William Davis, of the 7th Regiment of Dragoons, died July 30th 1855, aged 85, the cadet of an old Irish family, and his wife, Mary Hill Bisset, descended from an ancient Highland house, of which, we believe, Sir Robert Bisset, the celebrated antiquary, was a member.

At Terraughty, when its possessor was the veteran John Maxwell, whose name we have had frequently to mention in connection with that of Burns, the gardener employed was Mr. James Bogie, a worthy man, who during his latter years occupied St. Michael's Cottage, Dumfries, in the grounds of which he might often have been seen—a fine embodiment of "retired leisure that in trim gardens takes its pleasure." His long rest in the place where no work is done dates from the 20th of December 1861; aged, as we learn further from his monument now reached, 83. Of Burns he could speak from personal knowledge, and in the movements for raising the Mausoleum and providing for the poet's widow and family he took a most creditable part. William Bogie, brother of James, who died at Kimmater Green, Annan, 23d July 1861, aged 76, is also named in the inscription.

We now reach the tomb of the last of the Trade Conveners under the old system—Mr. James Thomson, architect. He was, we believe, a native of Edinburgh, and first set up his staff in Dumfries about 1815, when he came to superintend the changes by which a chapel in Buccleuch Street was transformed into the County Court-house (now the Town Hall). Though for ages the Seven Trades of Dumfries enjoyed a monopoly which brought them not only exclusive privileges, but great political and municipal power, they, with Mr. Thomson as chief, gave a cordial self-denying support to the Reform movement, which was to bring themselves down in one respect and in another to "level up" to their platform a great body of the unfreemen and the unenfranchised. During the whole period of their history the Trades, we believe, never had a more efficient chief; and they, with the view of shewing their appreciation of his worth, entertained him at dinner, and presented him with a handsome service of silver plate. This was the last merry meeting of a public kind held in Dumfries for many months. Cholera entered the Burgh about a week afterwards, and among its first victims of the middle class was Convener Thomson. Whilst busily engaged as a member of the newly-formed Board of Health in making sanitary arrangements, he was prostrated by the pestilence, his death occurring 11th October 1832. When the sad news spread abroad, as it soon did, the prevailing gloom of the community acquired a deeper hue. When thus suddenly cut off Mr. Thomson was only in his 49th year. The monument to his memory is appropriately tasteful in an architectural sense. On its tablet of light grey granite the names of himself and two sons appear in gilt letters. Both of the sons died abroad—George, an engineer, at Poonah, 11th May 1842, aged 27; and Robert, a missionary to the heathen of Tahite, who died at sea, 1st January 1851, aged 34, his body obtaining a grave in the great waters—a more comprehensive and populous burial-place than any which the solid earth supplies.

Of two contemporary builders we find a stone record in this section — Thomas Edgar, Maxwelltown; and John Heuchan, Dumfries. The former died 16th January 1839, aged 65; the inscription bearing the names of himself; his wife, Mary Walker; their children, Alexander who died at 34, James at 37; also Thomas, son of Alexander, and James who died in infancy. Barbara Affleck, the wife of Mr. Heuchan, is named with him upon the monument: he died 28th August 1836, aged 77.

Passing a small memorial stone, which bears the name of William Young, died at St. Michael's Lodge, 8th August 1832, aged 49, we reach the stately monument of James Charteris, turner, one of the founders of the Dumfries and Maxwelltown Mechanics' Institute, and who, by lecturing and otherwise, assisted to bring it to maturity. Besides being an industrious and ingenious mechanic, Mr. Charteris devoted much time to scientific subjects, more especially electricity, in which he was an adept. He died 11th August, 1861, aged 75. Buried beside him lie his wife, Janet Gracie, and their two sons, James who died at 12, and Thomas Gracie at 16.

Several members of the Barnkin Thorburns lie buried in portions of the Cemetery already visited; and we find the names of others on the next monument: William Thorburn, a skilful agriculturist, died 29th May 1867, aged 61; and his children Robert who died at 7, Fanny at 28, and Mary at 29.

"Loyal au mort" stands appropriately as a motto over the name of a gallant soldier, Major John Drummond of the Bengal Artillery, died 29th December, 1830, aged 64; the imposing Gothic structure thus inscribed commemorating also that officer's wife, Mary Harriet Cridland; and Agnes Cridland, spouse of Samuel Anthony Bloxam, Eton, Bucks.

Several members of upper class families are named on the next monument, the record including: Jane, daughter of John Armstrong of Pokeskin, wife of Aurelius Gillet of the East India Service, died at Newtonaird, 17th May, 1833 (age not stated); Jane, niece of the above, daughter of John Yew Griffith of Finchley, died in June, 1830, aged 17; and Barbara, daughter of John Carlyle, died 2d February, 1833, aged 92.

The loss of Elizabeth Moscrop, died at Clifton 1st June 1830, aged 24, is pathetically bewailed by her husband in lines engraved upon the last monument of the section. He is represented as saying:

"I shall go to her but she shall not return to me."—2d Sam. xi. 23.

"Few were the nuptial years that gladdened life,
With its supremest bless a virtuous wife,
When as if sent but as an angel guest,
For her own heaven she left my widowed breast."

CHAPTER X.

RETURN TO THE WESTERN WALL.

AT the end of the Southern Walk the churchyard wall takes a western direction, it then runs south, after which it again proceeds westward till the south-west corner is reached. Along this line we find about twenty family layers, and also the resting-place of a great miscellaneous multitude cut off by one deadly epidemic, and who lie indiscriminately huddled together, yet getting quite as sound a sleep as if to each one of the victims had been allotted his own separate chamber in the populous dormitory below.

A neat monument in the corner rises "In memory of Robert Mundell, tobacconist, Dumfries, who died 15th September 1837, in his 75th year." The deceased carried on a prosperous business at a time when the tobacco trade differed much from what it is now. During the three first decades of the current century the practice of snuffing was general, men of all ranks using the "fragrant Indian weed" in powder form "with pungent powers perfumed;" and it was at Mr. Mundell's shop on the Plainstones that almost all the boxes used in the town were replenished. Then snuff-taking was the custom of the many, while "the little tube of mighty power, charmer of an idle hour," was a luxury enjoyed by the few. Now, when the same premises are occupied by Mr. Peter Mundell, the worthy son of the deceased merchant, the proportion is quite reversed; the pipe, with its "vapour that affords content more solid than the smile of lords," has fairly puffed the box aside; and it is seldom indeed that the latter article, pregnant with odoriferous "pinches," is met with in Dumfries society.

Provost Gabriel Richardson married the only sister of Mr. Robert Mundell, and their celebrated son, Sir John Richardson, "owed," we are told by his biographer, "much of his early training to his mother, a woman of vigorous understanding and clear judgment, frugal, independent, and generous. From her sons and daughters she exacted implicit obedience, and taught them by precept and example to love God and their neighbour. Her mother, Mrs. Mundell, who lived at Rosebank, a delightful country house near the town, had also no small influence in forming the character of her grandson."* The close intimacy of Burns with the Richardsons, and their relatives the Mundells, is well known. An interesting letter, commending one of his sick servants to the professional care of Dr. Mundell, brother of Robert, appears in the poet's correspondence; and when, in another letter, Burns wished to describe the "fat, sleek, stupid, patient, contented" race of mortals who differed diametrically from himself, he found the "exact prototype" in the ox which drove a cotton mill set up by Dr. Mundell at Dumfries, after his retirement from the Royal Navy. On account of this family connection, and for other reasons, there was a fitness in the arrangement which made the present Mr. Peter Mundell of Bogrie, J.P. and ex-bailie, chairman at one of the great festive demonstrations by which, seventeen years ago, the Centenary of Burns was celebrated in Dumfries. On the monument which has suggested these remarks appear also the names of his mother, Elizabeth Smith, age 85; of his wife, Janet Haining, age 43; and of two of their off-spring, who died in early childhood.

On the next monument we read the farewell address, pathetic yet consolatory, of Mary Colvin, Dumfries, who died at Chichester, May 4th 1837, and who is represented as taking leave of her husband, William Smith, merchant, Dumfries, and their three children, in the following strain:

"Farewell, fond husband and my darling boys,
In whom are centred all my earthly joys.
The triple union broke—yet one short space,
Will reunite us in the realms of peace.

"Kind angels watch the sleeping dust
Till Jesus comes to raise the just.
Then may we wake with sweet surprise,
And in our Saviour's image rise."

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* M'Ilraith's *Life of Sir John Richardson*, p. 2.

The children were laid with her in the same vault, and seven years afterwards her husband joined them when at the age of 44, the whole household being thus swept away, and if the hope expressed in the inscription were realised, meeting again on high, "no wanderer lost, a family in heaven."

Near by a stone rises in memory of Charles Dalrymple Porteous, Clerk of Excise, died 7th July 1875, aged 73; and his wife, Charlotte H. Balieff, a member of a family already mentioned as occupying a highly respected position in Dumfries. In the inscription appear the names of their three infant children; of Anne Brydon, relict of Robert Porteous, senior, died 6th November 1844, aged 80; and of Mary, sister of C. D. Porteous, aged 50.

Set into the wall in hatchment fashion, we find a neat little tablet dedicated to the memory of an intelligent and worthy burgess, William Dickson, plasterer, died 8th December 1867, aged 76; and of his spouse, Jessie M'Quhae. Three of their grandchildren, offspring of John Dickson, who follows his father's occupation, are named in the inscription. They all died young; and it is a remarkable circumstance, to which we find no parallel in the Churchyard, that two of the children, James and John, were twins, entering the world at the same time, and that in death they were not divided, both expiring 17th October 1860, at the age of 9 years, and both lying buried together. A side panel bears the name of the elder Mr. Dickson's father, whose Christian name was also John, and the name of his wife Mary Underwood: he died at the advanced age of 86, on 4th January 1839.

Neat plain headstones placed along the wall commemorate John Kean, died 4th December 1846, aged 73, with his wife, Elizabeth Watson, also two of their children, and Samuel Maxwell, cooper, their son-in-law, whose ages are not specified; Lieutenant William Halliday, of the 6th R.V. Battalion, died 11th September 1835, aged 65; William Wallace, merchant, died 29th December 1850, aged 49, with Marion Nibloe his spouse; Robert Jardine, merchant, died 4th October 1832, aged 28, another victim to cholera, with his spouse Margaret

Samuel Grierson, baker and brewer, died 26th September 1832, aged 38, with three of his children, including James, a medical student, cut off at 17; and Adam M'Turk, died 8th June 1830, aged 32, with his infant child Catherine.

Of a distinguished Dumfriesian, Dr. Benjamin Bell, who about a hundred years ago was recognised as the greatest Scottish surgeon of his day, we have already had occasion to speak. Two near relatives, father and son, both bearing his name and surname, receive commemoration on the next monument. One of the inscriptions states that Benjamin Bell died 23d January 1833, in his 69th year, and it records also the death of his wife, Jane Paton, of their three sons —William, who died when 38, John, at Calcutta, when 30, and Charles, in Jamaica, when 43—of their daughter, wife of Mr. H. Dudgeon, and of two sisters of Mr. Bell, Elizabeth and Janet, both of whom lived to an advanced age. The second inscription is "sacred to the memory" of his son Benjamin, who spent his prime abroad as a surgeon in the East India Company service, and his later years at Rosebank, Dumfries, where he died 3d May 1872, aged 74. Within the enclosure rises a headstone dedicated to John Douglas, merchant, died at Manchester, 17th April 1844, aged 49, Mary Cumner Bell, his wife, and four of their infant children; also Janet Peel Bell, relict of Alexander Ness, merchant, Edinburgh, died 27th April 1865, aged 73.

The word "Duncow," which we see on a stately monument now arrived at, recalls not only memories of the near but of the far distant past. It is the name borne by an extensive manor, owned in the beginning of the fourteenth century by John Comyn, together with the neighbouring castle of Dalswinton, from which fortress he sallied forth on the memorable visit to our Burgh that brought him into contact with Robert Bruce, and resulted in his own death by violence in the Greyfriars' Monastery, and eventually in the deliverance of Scotland from the English yoke. After the victory of Bannockburn had completed the work of liberation thus begun, Bruce recognised the patriotic services of his faithful follower, Sir Robert Boyd, by making him laird of Duncow. In course of time it was acquired by the Nithsdale Maxwells. Some ninety years ago they disposed of it; and subsequently it came into the possession of William Heron, whose name appears associated with Duncow, as its owner, on the monument before us. The inscription states that he died on the 15th of December 1819, aged 70; that his wife, Jean Houston, died on the 28th of May 1856, aged 72; also that their youngest son died in boyhood; the following words being added recently—"James Heron, Esquire of Duncow, their son, who died 19th August 1874, in his 58th year; also William, his son, who died 16th November 1859, aged 5 years and 6 months." On the estate a magnificent mansion—palace it might almost be called—was erected at the cost of the late proprietor, about fifteen years ago. Mr. Heron's widow, a French lady, survives; but in accordance with a settlement made by him before his marriage, and as his only child and heir predeceased him, the historical estate of Duncow, with its palatial manor-house, passed into the possession of his four cousins by the mother's side, who afterwards sold them to Mr. Crabbie, wine merchant, Leith.

An adjoining stone commemorates James Heron, senior of Drumcoltran (brother of William Heron), who died June 7th 1832, aged 71. Both of the brothers were enterprising and successful merchants, in what is called "the Scotch trade" south of the Border, and afterwards as drapers in Dumfries.

About forty years ago two brothers, Taylor by name, who had earned a competency in the West Indies, occupied respectively in their latter years Broomland and Troqueer Holm, both beautiful residences on the Galloway bank of the Nith. Being gentlemen of intelligence, moral worth, and religious devotedness, they proved to be a valuable acquisition to the society of the district. Greatly owing to the exertions of the brothers Taylor the Maxwelltown Chapel-of-Ease was built in 1829, of which the celebrated Dr. James Begg was the first minister. Sharing many things in common when alive, they lie side by side in the tomb, with stately twin monuments of Greek design rising above, that differ in nothing except the lettering, which informs us that Robert Taylor of Broomland died on the 11th of March, 1841, aged 60; and that his brother predeceased him on the 16th of July 1831, at the age of 61. In yet another respect the brothers presented a parallel, having each married a daughter of the Rev. Dr. Burnside, both of whom are here commemorated: Jane Burnside, wife of Robert, with their infant daughter; and Mary Burnside, wife of William, with their four children, two of whom lived to middle age—namely, William, who was B.A. of Queen's College, Cambridge, and Anne, wife of the Rev. R. F. Browne Winslowe, incumbeut of Fensnett.

The youngest daughter of Robert Taylor was married to the late Dudley Baxter who gained much repute as the author of some very able pamphlets, financial and political, one of which is entitled "The Progress of National Debts," another "Local Government and Local Taxation." He was a native of Doncaster, and member of the well-known legal firm of Baxter & Co. He died in May 1875, aged 48, leaving two sons to mourn his early death.

Three brothers, Spalding, members of an upper-class family, have their names recorded on the next stone—these being James Spalding, Clerk of the Peace for Dumfriesshire, died 3d July 1838, aged 74; Robert, a writer, died 15th February 1822, aged 54; and John, a Glasgow merchant, died in 1824, aged also 54. Sibella Bell, wife of James, and four of their children, are also commemorated by the monument—Robert, who died at 32, Agnes at 42, John at 49, and James, a distinguished surgeon, for many years on the staff of our Infirmary, who died at the same age.

Agnes, daughter of Francis Kennedy of Dunure, head of a well-known Ayrshire house, is kept in remembrance by an adjoining headstone: she died 8th April 1820, aged 69. It is neighboured by one bearing the following inscription:

"Sacred to the memory of Emma Caroline Duncan, who died at Mrs. M'Queen's, Netherwoodbank, Dumfriesshire, on the 20th April 1820, aged nine years and six months, only child of the late Lieut. Andrew Duncan, of the Royal Navy, and Mrs. Mary Grant his spouse. This stone is erected by Mr. and Mrs. M'Queen in remembrance of their dear young friend, in May 1820."

Many of the ministers whose voice Sabbath after Sabbath resounded through St. Michael's Church slumber silently in the Cemetery around. Coming to the resting place of one of them we read, "Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord," then the words, "Sacred to the memory of the Rev. Robert Wallace, minister of St. Michael's Parish, Dumfries, who died 20th of November 1864, in the 76th year of his age, and the 48th of his ministry." The deceased clergyman was born at New Luce; and it was while acting as assistant pastor in Kirkpatrick-Durham that he was translated to Dumfries, on the death of the previous incumbent, Dr. Scot. At that period he was an impressive and attractive preacher; and through life his pulpit utterances were of a thoroughly Evangelical cast. We repeat here a portion of what was said in the *Standard* regarding him at the period of his demise: "Dr. Wallace was of a mild, generous, benevolent disposition. Possessed of a fine appearance, he was at the same time highly accomplished—a thorough gentleman, polished, affable, and courteous. Even when unable to officiate in the pulpit, he kept up a cordial intercourse with many of his parishioners; and now that he is gone, his venerable form and kindly smile will be much missed by the people of his charge."

To his excellent partner, Elizabeth Smith, and three of their children—Agnes, an infant, Elizabeth, who died when 29, and Robert, who died at Mobile, when 44, a few lines are allotted on the monument; and a rare entry follows, in remembrance of Mary Moreland and Elizabeth M'Niel, "faithful servants of the family." In the grave

"Servants, masters, small and great,
Partake the same repose;"

yet how seldom do we see their names associated in this pleasing style, suggesting as it does dutiful servitude on the one hand and kindly considerateness on the other. The poet warns us

"Of friends however humble scorn not one;
The daisy by the shadow that it casts,
Protects the lingering dewdrop from the sun."

And in this case, the service appreciated during life is gratefully recognised after death, upon the tombstone. The plot is kept in fine order. Within it rises also a cruciform memorial-stone of marble, whose pure white hue contrasts beautifully with the evergreen bushes by which it is surrounded. The cross is reared in memory of an accomplished lady, Agnes, youngest daughter of Dr Wallace, and wife of the Rev. James Williamson of Allahabad, India, formerly assistant to his father-in-law. She died March 24th, 1870, at the age of 33.

The neighbouring compartment, which is also very tastefully kept, is the property of a respected Dumfries family; the neat monument within it recording the death of John Muirhead, innkeeper, which took place 18th February 1850, at the age of 74, of his wife, Elizabeth M'Naught, two children, and other relatives, including a son-in-law, Thomas Kerr, flesher, died 3d April 1849, aged 41.

THE CHOLERA MOUND.

Who lie in the next long, long section? Many, their name numerically is legion; but of the designations borne by them when alive no reliable list has been preserved, unless it be that of "the recording angel." About seventy-eight feet long and eleven broad, the compartment is out of all comparison much more spacious than any other to be seen throughout the Cemetery, yet it is but "a narrow house" after all for the lodgment of the numerous tenants that were lowered into it during the seventy dismal days of 1832, when cholera, like a destroying angel, dominated over the town and district. Had not the relays of wearied sextons, who laboured away at the sepulchral excavation, dug deep to utilise fully the space at their disposal, it could not have contained one-half of the hecatomb brought hither on handspokes, in hearses, or in other vehicles, during the period of the visitation. The Southern Walk has been represented as bearing the same relationship to the dead that Castle Street does or did to the quick; and the Cholera Mound may in a somewhat similar sense be spoken of as a compressed counterpart to the closses and other plebeian portions of the Burgh, since from these were brought most of the bodies that "heaped and pent" were here "in one dark burial blent." Not that the victims of the epidemic were confined to the poor. They at first suffered most severely, but before a month had gone, it seemed to matter little whether the inhabitants abode in noisome alleys or in patrician squares, "in the vilest rookeries of the Vennel," or in stately mansions at the West-end, all places being indiscriminately visited, and no respect of persons paid by the plague. Those who had, when alive, acquired a right to lie in their own family plots were generally carried thither for interment, even during the confusion of the crisis; and, as a consequence, the remains of the rich bear a small proportion only to those of the poor, by which this enclosure is peopled.

The first death from cholera in Dumfries occurred on the 15th of September. For the 1st of October the record showed fifty-six new cases and twenty-three deaths, while next day it reached its culminating point, rising to fifty-five new cases and fifty-four deaths. Fatal cases continued to occur daily till the 30th October, which proved a blank day; and by the middle of November the disease had fairly disappeared. During its stay it desolated scores of homesteads, leaving "many a sweet babe fatherless, and many a widow mourning," and sometimes sweeping whole families into eternity. As officially reported, 837 persons were attacked, of whom 421 died; but the number of coffins made, and the heavy sexton's bills, as based upon the burial-roll, went to shew that the real deaths were greater in number and probably not fewer than 550. The sister burgh of Maxwelltown suffered about as much, population considered, the cases there having been 237, and the deaths 127. Beneath the turf, on which we now gaze—kept green even in winter by the rich soil below—at least 350 coffined bodies were laid, piled tier upon tier, with quicklime scattered between. The cavity was made eighteen feet deep, and extended as the demand for accommodation rapidly and fearfully increased, and the grave-diggers had to ply their implements in harmony, with the dismal Death-stave; "I gather them in; I gather them in!" Seven strata, forming seven separate stories, make up this vast charnel house ; and to commemorate the fate of its occupants, but not their names, as these have vanished, a neat upright slab rises in the middle of the Mound, bearing the following inscription :

"In this Cemetery, and chiefly within this enclosure, lie the mortal remains of more than 420 inhabitants of Dumfries, who were suddenly swept away by the memorable invasion of Asiatic cholera, A.D., MDCCCXXXII. That terrific pestilence entered the town on 15th September, and remained till 27th November, during which period it seized at least 900 individuals, of whom 44 died in one day, and no more than 415 were reported as recovered. That the benefit of this solemn warning might not be lost to posterity, this Monument was erected, from collections made in several churches in this town."

"Ps. xc.—Thou turnest man to destruction ; and sayest, Return, ye children of men. Thou carriest them away as with a flood."

"Mat. xxv. 13.—Watch, therefore, for ye know neither the day nor the hour."

When, a few years back, the Rev. Mr. Bryson (now of Alloa) was minister of St. Michael's, he preached an appropriate and eloquent sermon on the cholera visitation, at the close of which a collection was made, which was employed in repairing the enclosure and planting it with evergreens.

Dumfries also suffered much from a second attack of cholera in 1848 ; the cases numbered about 600, and the deaths 317 ; but though thus destructive it created no panic, as it had done on the first occasion. In proceeding to the burial-place used in 1832 we passed the one where were interred at least 250 of those who fell, fatally plague-stricken, in 1848. It stretches under the common pathway that runs from near the Duncow monument northwards towards Burns's Mausoleum—having upon it no monumental stone, nor anything whatever to indicate that such a multitude of those who were once our fellow-townsfolks lie mouldering below. This is not as it should be ; but the long neglected duty might still be paid—" better late than never."

Dreadfully scourged by cholera, Dumfries waked up to the necessity of securing a plentiful supply of wholesome water, and otherwise improving its sanitary condition ; and having prosecuted both aims with success, its salubrity was greatly promoted, and it is now as healthy a town as is to be found within the United Kingdom.

CHAPTER XI.

PARALLEL WITH THE SOUTHERN WALK.

BEYOND the Mound a little we reach two handsome erections—one in memory of David Newall Irving, aged 31, Thomas Irving, aged 12, and three of their youthful brothers, children of ex-Dean William Irving, shoemaker; another commemorating Elizabeth Anderson, died 16th March 1832, aged 33, spouse of Convener Alexander Lookup, who belonged to a family that were long connected with the leather trade of the Burgh. This latter stone adjoins the Gibson monument, and with the notice of it our survey of the whole outer circle of the Cemetery is completed. Turning back, we proceed from west to east along a mortuary section lying north of and parallel with the Southern Walk. It contains fully fifty erections, most of them headstones, with five or six tables and about a dozen of a more ambitious aspect.

A neat headstone bears a fine French inscription in memory of Agnes Smith, wife of Captain Stephen Victor de Pracki, at present an efficient teacher of French and other modern languages. She died at Hutton Lodge, Carlaverock, on the 2d June 1868, aged 34. The epitaph, which is very similar to one inscribed on an older tombstone behind the Church, is as follows:

"Ta main bienfaisante et chérie
D'un Polonais vint essuyer les pleurs
Tu me tint lieu de parents de patrie
Le même tombeau lorsque tu m'es ravie
Renferme nos deux coeurs."

For the tasteful versified translation subjoined we are indebted to our townsman, Mr. A. L. Finlay, who is an excellent linguist:—

"Thou came'st with tender ever-loving hand,
The Polish exile's tears to wipe away,
Thou wast to him as friends and fatherland,
Now in one grave by ruthless Death's command,
Two hearts ie buried with thy hallowed clay."

Stephen V. de Pracki, the husband of the lady thus commemorated, belongs to a patrician family in Poland, aided the movements that were entered upon for the liberation of his country in 1848, and next year he joined the Italian army and had the honour of fighting under Garibaldi at the siege of Rome. He took part afterwards in the Hungarian war of independence. Since 1852 Captain Pracki has resided in this country, enjoying the protection of the British Government. He is a naturalized Scotsman ; and has for the last ten years sojourned in Dumfries, receiving the respect due to his excellent character, and the sympathy to which he is entitled as a political refugee.

The east front of the same stone bears an inscription commemorating some of Mrs. Pracki's relatives : James Irving, hosier, died 19th April, 1851, age not mentioned ; Agnes Blount, his wife, "she lived highly respected and died deeply regretted"; James, their son, an Excise officer, on whom the same encomium is passed, died 27th July, 1827 ; Isabella their daughter, and two other children, who died in infancy.

On another neat headstone we read the names of Agnes Gillespie, died 6th September, 1835, aged 27, wife of William M'Kie, smith and bell-hanger ; their infant daughter Ann ; and his second wife, Agnes Berridge, died 12th September, 1850, aged 46. Other stones similar in form rise in the same section to commemorate the following : John Grierson, innkeeper, died 30th November 1843, aged 41 ; Catherine Napier, wife of Robert Richardson, innkeeper, died 9th October 1832, aged 58 ; Margaret Herbertson, wife of James Richardson, merchant, died 13th October 1832, aged 41 ; David Brown, mason, died 12th June 1819, aged 47, with Isabella M'Lachlan, his spouse ; Hannah Robson, wife of James Johnston, died at Maxwelltown, 3d April 1874, aged 61, and William, their son, who died when 34 ; Agnes Robson, spouse of John Rae, mariner, died 9th March 1838, aged 29, with four of his children, who died when young ; John M'Kay, an ingenious wood carver and gilder, died 28th April 1844, aged 43, with three of his infant children ; Thomas Penny, brewer, died 13th December 1829, aged 52, with Marion Horsburgh, his wife, and two daughters: Robert Clark. seaman, drowned at Bow Scaur, 28th May 1832, and his wife, Mary Maids; John Brockie, joiner, died 3d September 1836, aged 61, with Euphemia Burrell, his wife, and their son John, cabinet-maker, died at 21; Joan Irving, wife of John Pattie, died 1st November 1855, aged 54, with her young daughter Sarah; George Stevenson, baker, died 16th May 1854, aged 40, with Mary Maxwell, his spouse, Robert, their son, who died at 16, "a ship boy on the high and giddy mast," George, another son, who was two years older, and Agnes, cut off in childhood; Joseph Crosbie, Maxwelltown, died 9th September 1837, aged 61, with his spouse, Helen Allan, and their sons, Robert who died at 23, and Thomas Goldie, joiner, who died at 25; James Johnston, carter, died 9th May 1846, aged 68, with his wife Helen Blackstock, their son Thomas, who died at 15, and other descendants; Thomas Smithson, hatter, died 19th December 1830, aged 55; Thomas Holt, an "exile of Erin," who carried on business as a crystal merchant in the Burgh, dying 23d December 1827, aged 66; his fellow-countryman, Thomas Morgan, broker, died 14th October 1832, aged 64, with Leah Burns, his wife; John Cowan, carter, died 20th April 1837, aged 70; William Wilson, another carter, died 6th October 1850, aged 56, with Agnes Moffat, his spouse, their offspring—Alexander, who died when 44, David when 17, James, lost at sea, and two others who died in childhood; Alexander Moffat, died at Maxwelltown, 12th June 1832, aged 70, with Margaret Smith, his spouse; and Mary Smith, milliner, who, the inscription states,

> "Died of Asiatic cholera, after twelve hours' illness, 14th October 1832, aged 51. She possessed the esteem and confidence of a wide circle of acquaintance, was ever ready to assist the distressed, and by precept and example displayed many Christian virtues. She had no fear of death, and died in the hope of a blessed resurrection."

For several generations past there have always been fleshers in Dumfries of the name of Selkirk: and a stone in this section commemorates one of them, Robert, a respectable tradesman, died 8th September 1862, aged 45; his young son, John P. Selkirk, sleeping by his side. The Beatties, an old Border clan, have also long had representatives in the Burgh belonging to the cooper craft, one of whom, Robert, a worthy man, died 5th December 1848, aged 49, rests near by, with his wife, Margaret Boyd Monteith, and two daughters, Marion who died when a child, and Margaret at 16. Writing in 1832, Mr. M'Diarmid says: "Clogs or wooden shoes form another item in the exports of Dumfries and Maxwelltown; and we have good authority for stating that at least £1000 is realised annually by this traffic."* At that date the trade was chiefly in the hands of the late Bailie Hammond. It is now carried on to a larger extent than ever by, among others, Mr. David Wyper, whose family burial place appears in this section, the neat headstone which marks the spot bearing the name of his wife, Janet Smith, died 22d December 1848, aged 38: the inscription adds that "She was much respected, and her decease deeply regretted;" and it commemorates also Joseph, their son, who died in childhood, and William Smith, father of Mrs. Wyper, who died 4th January 1827, aged 45.

Two boys, both of whom died in March 1842, the sole children of James Lemmon, Wesleyan minister, and Mary Jane, his wife, are commemorated by a neat little headstone. The prefix "Rev." is not attached to the father's name; but it might have been, without provoking opposition from the minister of St. Michael's or his Session. A neighbouring stone actually bears the designation for inscribing which on a monument in an English churchyard a Methodist divine was recently prosecuted by the parish vicar, and, after a vexatious litigation, only obtained a vindication of his right to use the term from the supreme ecclesiastical court.† A quiet rebuke to all such assumptions as that of the vicar is conveyed by the inscription under notice, which runs thus:

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* *Picture of Dumfries.*

† The case here referred to is that of the Rev. Henry Keet, Wesleyan minister, *v.* the vicar of Owsten-Ferry, which occasioned much public excitement when it occurred, in 1875.

"Sacred to the memory of James William Haughton, who departed this life 20th March 1847, aged 2 years and 17 days. The above was the son of the Rev. James Haughton, Wesleyan minister, Dumfries, and Ann, his wife."

In no section of the Cemetery, size considered, do we find such a numerous array as this of monuments commemorating old people, the figures in many instances telling of a much more lengthened life tenure than the ultimatum assigned by the Royal Psalmist. Some of these veterans are named in the following list, and others at intervals till the close of the chapter: Janet M'Gowan died in 1832, aged 75, her daughter Agnes Landrough died in 1827, at 44; John Garmery died 15th November 1814, aged 74, with his spouse Janet Holmes, died 17th September 1826, aged 79, and Mary Affleck, spouse of his brother Robert, died 2d April 1844, aged 64; Janet Hair died 3d December 1833, aged 87, and Jacobina M'Naught died 31st January 1855, aged 66; James M'Michael, a much respected merchant, who stood erect behind his counter while bearing the burden of four-score, and was still hale and hearty a few days before he died, 16th October 1852, aged 83: his son James, died at 38, and two infant children being also named in the inscription; Hugh Farish, grain-dealer, died 9th January 1862, aged 81, with Jean Fead, his wife, and five children, including Jean, who died at 16; three residenters at Gasstown, born long before that village came into existence—James Russell died 1st October 1871, aged 78, his wife, Elizabeth Blackstock; Helen Watson Russell, died 21st January 1833, aged 84, Jane, daughter of the latter, died 24th December 1851, aged 75; Henrietta Gillespie, mother of Robert Houston in Broomrig, died 13th November 1846, aged 95, with Agnes Grierson, spouse of Mr. Houston, died 26th November 1863, aged 67, and William, their son.

All the above names appear on headstones; and next the stone which bears the inscription last quoted rises an altar monument in memory of William Houston, mason, died 28th September 1832, aged 45, his spouse Janet M'Kenzie, and two infant grandchildren. On other tabular erections the list of long-aged people is continued: Nicholas

Allan, relict of James Anderson, farmer in Kirkgunzeon, died 30th March 1829, aged 84, with her daughter Isobel, who died at 52; Martha Scott, relict of Lieutenant James Scott, Royal Navy, died 4th January 1826, aged 79, Elizabeth, their daughter, died at 74, and three grandsons, Robert, who died at 49, George, an advocate, died at 28, and William, at 18; William Haining, son of Alexander Haining of Craigs, died 7th October, 1825, aged 73, with Margaret Oliver, his wife, Thomas, his brother, died in Maxwelltown, 13th February 1847, aged 85, and Robert, another brother, died at Mile-House, Dumfries, 21st April 1849, aged 84.

These venerable persons are all commemorated by simple headstones or tables; but at the west end of the section an imposing monument rises in memory of a worthy matron, Jane Garmery, whose age exceeds any yet mentioned, she having lived to be 99, her death occurring at Disdow, 5th January, 1870: she was the spouse of Robert Waugh, hay and grain-dealer, who is also named in the inscription, died 31st May 1833, aged 61; together with their children, Agnes, who died at 17, and Thomas, at 22.

Tallow-chandling is still one of the industries of the Burgh, and before the illuminating "dips" or more patrician waxen tapers grew pale under the brilliant lustre of gaslight, much of the trade was carried on by a family named Riddick, some members of which are commemorated on two stately monuments near by: the inscriptions include the names of Samuel Riddick, died 6th June 1853, aged 55, of his wife, Jean M'Kune, and five of their offspring, whose "light of life" was rudely blown out in early years. But the life of man, even when extended like that of the veterans we have just been noticing, is but as a momentary vapour compared with eternity.

"Out, out, brief candle.
Life's but a walking shadow; a poor player,
That struts and frets his hour upon the stage,
And then is heard no more!"

Several stately erections face the walk in front of this section, the first of them being one raised in honour of an honest, warm-hearted, and benevolent citizen of Dumfries, Mr. Robert Bell, ironmonger, died 3d October 1860, aged 61 : Mr. Bell was for many years an able and popular member of the Town Council. His wife, Elizabeth Kennedy ; their daughter, Jean Elizabeth, wife of Robert Falkner, who died when 36, at Prestwich Park, Manchester, their son John, who died when 23, and stepson James M'Kay, merchant, Birmingham, who died when 40, are also named upon the monument.

The next monument commemorates David M'Gill, for many years an influential citizen of Dumfries. For a considerable period during the old close system, he occupied a seat in the Town Council, and he took a leading part in the movement for popularising its constitution by means of the Reform Bill. During his later years, as tenant of Rotchell farm, which is still held by members of his family, he manifested characteristic energy and skill. Mr. M'Gill died on March 7th 1855, at the age of 63. The monument also commemorates his wife, Margaret Irving, and two of their offspring, who died in early childhood.

When the classical department of the Dumfries Academy was presided over by the late Rector Harkness, he could number among his cleverest pupils a youth named Robert Daniel, who won numerous prizes, and who, when arrived at man's estate, occupied the position of a dux among the merchants of Baltimore. A monument erected by him in 1840, to the memory of his parents, is next arrived at, the inscription stating that his father, Thomas Daniel, died 13th October 1832, at the advanced age of 82, his mother, Alice Nash, at 65 ; and recording the names also of their children —John died at 24, Joseph at 44, Jane at 36, Isabella, spouse of Peter Williamson, died at 43, and William, cut off in infancy. At a more recent date the inscription was enlarged, in order to announce his own death, which occurred at Dawlish, in Devonshire, 17th June 1873, when he was 59. Mr. Daniel manifested his continued interest in the *alma mater* of his early days by bequeathing a considerable legacy to the Academy.

Further east, an oblong, upright stone of grey granite attracts attention on account of its massive yet graceful appearance, and its exquisitely carved quatrefoil, shewing a white dove with olive branch, emblematic of the faith that soars triumphantly over "the swellings of Jordan." This fine monument is "sacred to the memory of Thomas Harkness, writer, died 31st October 1832, aged 35;" of his wife, Jessie Elizabeth Comrie; and of their children, including William who died at 18, Thomas James at 38, and Catherine, wife of William Evans, at 28. Mr. Harkness was partner of William Gordon, who still survives at a venerable age; and he was a brother of the late Rector Harkness, and of Dr. Harkness, formerly Principal of Elphinstone College, Madras, a distinguished Oriental scholar, now residing at Albany House, Dumfries.

Additional instances of longevity are recorded on other stones facing the walk. One of these tells of John Black, merchant, who "lived highly respected and his decease deeply regretted," and Jane Rae, his widow, the former dying 1st January 1849, aged 74, the latter 3d May 1863, aged 76: their son William, merchant, died 4th October 1861, aged 36, and their other son, John, who followed the same occupation, died 29th April 1874, aged 54, are also named upon the monument.

A neatly kept compartment is next reached, in which rises the monument of an industrious and enterprising tradesman, Edward Grierson, joiner, died 18th July 1865, aged 75: it commemorates also his sons, William, Robert, and Richard, who died in boyhood, Alexander, who died at 26, and two other children, who died in infancy. Mr. Grierson erected many buildings on his own account; and an extensive range of houses built on Corbelly Hill by his son John is named "Grierson's Terrace."

Still proceeding eastward, we notice a stately structure, erected in memory of John Kelly, died 31st October 1832, aged 79; Janet Chalmers, his spouse; John Kelly, grain-dealer, their son, who followed the same business, died at 63, Jean, their daughter, who died at 68, and Thomas, also a grain-dealer, who died 13th January 1865, aged 83; and Agnes M'George, wife of James Kelly, farmer, Highmains, Carlaverock.

Near by rests one of the patriarchs of the Dumfries drapery trade, William Howat, a man of probity and piety, "diligent in business, serving the Lord." From his commodious premises on the Plainstones, which superseded the old town-house of Lag at the Turnpike, many young men, getting the benefit of a good start, have gone forth to the goal of mercantile success: Mr. Howat died 28th December 1861, aged 75; his wife, Jane Hyslop, their daughter Jane, who died at 11, and their son Andrew at 5, are with himself named upon the family monument.

To John Weir, a prosperous saddler of the Burgh, and his spouse, Margaret Coulthard, who belonged to a family long connected with that branch of business, a stately monument is devoted. He died 28th October 1867, aged 67. Their daughter Agnes is also named in the inscription; together with her three infant children, by her husband, John Fallas, who carries on the trade of his late father-in-law. A small side stone commemorates Joseph Coulthard, saddler, died 17th April 1830, aged 28, and his two infant children.

John Clark, who acquired a fortune in Louisiana, and, like many other natives who have prospered abroad, returned to spend his declining years on the banks of Nith, died at Laurieknowe, Maxwelltown, 9th April 1866, aged 87, and lies buried in the next compartment. The monument which bears his name was at first erected by him in memory of his mother, Margaret Scott, who died 5th November 1855, on reaching the patriarchal age of 97. Claire Clark, a daughter of the merchant, who died at 20; and Annie Cox, his grandniece, died at 25, wife of William Biggar, Royal Bank, are included in the inscription.

"In memory of Andrew Wardrop, who died 26th August 1869, aged 64 years." Such is the laconic inscription upon the tombstone—a graceful oblong block—of one who was full of natural eloquence, and made more speeches than any local layman of his day. Born in Glasgow, he came to Dumfries in 1837, and while working as a framesmith, he became a devoted disciple of Mr. James Broom, when that gentleman with others unfurled the banner of total abstinence in the district. It was whilst pleading on its behalf that Mr. Wardrop developed his extraordinary oratorical faculty, which for many years had no parallel in the town or parish. To the schoolmaster he was very little indebted; of grammar he knew nothing, but he had great natural gifts, sharpened by a sort of rough self-culture. He had a prodigious memory, that enabled him to store up a vast array of facts, which formed the ready, raw material of the wonderful "yarns" which he could weave out at a moment's warning. Phrenologists saw in him a striking proof of their science, his fulness of eye shewing, they said, that an immense organ of language lay behind, while his great powers of observation, and ability to discriminate differences and agreements, gave an amplitude to his brain in the regions of comparison and the perceptive faculties. Not for temperance only did the deceased make his ringing voice heard here and all the country round. The middle classes had been enfranchised by the Reform Bill of 1832; but that measure left the toiling millions, those who helped to win it, in the cold shade; and he demanded such a supplementary bill as would bring them into the sunshine of political privilege. Accordingly the National Petition of the Birmingham Union with its five points, and the People's Charter with its six, found in Mr. Wardrop a most zealous, outspoken, and persistent advocate. But, with all his freedom of speech, he, unlike some demagogues of the time, always avoided the use of seditious language, never rounding a period with the words, "Peaceably if we may, forcibly if we must;" and like the greatest of all modern political agitators, Daniel O'Connell, firmly repudiating an appeal to physical force, in the full assurance that "freedom's battle" could be gained without resorting to pike or gun. Three of "the points," or measures all but equivalent, have actually been won, and that without violence; whether the remaining three—annual

Parliaments, payment of members, and equal electoral districts—will also be secured by and bye is, we suppose, an open question. How, in June 1841, this man of humble grade became so popular with the "masses" of the electoral district that they made him an M.P., must be well remembered by many of our readers. For three days, in virtue of a show of hands, he occupied a senatorial position at the expense of the two other candidates, Mr. William Ewart (who was returned at the poll) and Sir Alexander Johnston. On entering the post-office as a letter-carrier, which he did a few years afterwards, Mr. Wardrop had to give up politics, but he still continued his advocacy of teetotalism; and he did valuable service as a member of the Dumfries and Galloway Building Society and of the Parochial Board; and latterly as a Town Councillor, which office was held by him when he died.

The name of his wife, Sarah Goold, who predeceased him, also appears on the monument; and an adjacent headstone preserves the names of three young children, the offspring of her brother, John Goold, framesmith.

While this section is profusely occupied with relics of very aged people, there lie cradled beside them not a few who were snatched away when "mewling and puking in the nurse's arms," needing now no lullaby to deepen their rest: among these are five young children of James M'George, farmer in Waterside; three of John Mitchell, provision dealer; an infant daughter of James T. Gardiner; an infant son of Robert Welsh, farmer, Wellgreen; and one of Charles M'Minn, writer, Gatehouse, but belonging to Dumfries.

CHAPTER XII.

ALONG THE SECOND SOUTHERN FOOTPATH.

RETURNING westward along the pathway, we pass a row of imposing structures, resembling in no small degree those which fringe the Southern Walk, both as regards architectural form and evergreen surroudings. How replete with interest it is to all Dumfriesians, and many besides, may be inferred when we state that the masonry of the section overlooks the graves of such notable men, among others, as Provost M'Gowan, Bailie Harkness, and the Rev. Walter Dunlop.

We reach first the resting place of one who, though he acquired neither municipal rank nor ministerial status, yet exercised much beneficial influence in his day and generation. At a period when lay evangelists were less frequently met with than now, Charles Gillies, though working industriously as an upholsterer in Gregan & Creighton's establishment, found time for other work on which his heart was deeply set—the religious tuition of the young, the visitation of the sick, the exhortation of the careless—his labours being rendered doubly effective by the circumstance that he was emphatically a good man, a living epistle, illustrating by his example the precepts which he taught. He died on the 3d February 1838, aged 74. His wife, Jean Peden, descended from "Peden the Prophet," proved to him a help-meet indeed. To her the Ladies' Free School, Green Sands, owes its origin. Her name appears on the monument, with the names of her husband and several of their children, the latter including Andrew Gillies, advocate, who died at 44; also the names of James Colvin, his son-in-law, who died at 31, and Sophia, relict of the said James, "who fell asleep in Jesus, at Kirkmabreck Manse, on Sabbath morning, 6th September 1863, aged 64;" her son, the Rev. John Colvin, being minister of that parish. An inscription on the plinth states that Margaret Peden, sister-in-law of Charles Gillies, died 25th June 1844, aged 84.

Thomas McPherson, who carried on a good business as a painter and glazier, is commemorated by an adjoining monument, which bears also the name of his wife, Catherine Fletcher: he died 26th January 1852, when under 60, but the age is not stated. A respected baker, Francis Murray, lies in the next compartment, died 1st December 1853, aged 52; with his wife, Elizabeth Paterson; and four of their children—Francis, George, Roger Cutlar, whose ages are not given, and a second Francis, who died at 29. Further west a little is the burial-place of the Corsons of Dalwhat, with a stone on which we read of William Corson, died 11th March 1856; Samuel Brown, his son-in-law, died at Barnburroch, 1st July 1833; Lilias Corson, wife of the latter; Jane, her sister; William Corson, senior, died 29th August 1869, at the age of 78, the only age mentioned in the inscription.

In November 1855, a gentleman of much ability, worth, and influence, Mr. William M'Gowan, was chosen chief-magistrate of Dumfries. His name appears on a stately monument, the date attached to it shewing that his lease of office had but a brief duration, as he died only about a year afterwards, to the deep regret of the community over which he ruled. Solicitor, banker, agent for the representative of the Burghs (Mr. Ewart), he was able to fill all these offices efficiently, and yet to devote much time to the business of the public. The Water Scheme, which we have had to mention repeatedly, received from Provost M'Gowan a hearty advocacy, and he was always ready to promote any other movement that was fitted to subserve the interests of the community. He was long the recognised leader of the Liberal party at a time when political warfare was carried on in the municipality more keenly than it has been of late years; and in that capacity he was frequently confronted by Mr. John Fraser, the Conservative chief, who died during the same year and occupies an adjacent grave. Mr. M'Gowan expired when in office, 17th November 1856, at the age of 62. His wife, Jane Hairstens; four of their young children, two of whom died in infancy; Margaret B. Irving, spouse of John M'Gowan, draper; and Maggie

M'Knight, his second wife, are also commemorated by the monument.

Within the same compartment two upright slabs are placed—one in memory of John M'Gowan, draper, Dumfries, died 12th April 1824, aged 66, Margaret Halliday, his spouse, and Mary, their daughter, who died at 45; the other bears in remembrance John M'Gowan, writer, Peebles, died 24th April 1852, aged 66, Rachel Lindsay, his wife, and their son, John Anstruther, a brave and accomplished officer, who lost his life in the Crimean war: he served as Brigadier-Major of the 39th Highlanders, and died of his wounds when a prisoner in Sebastapol, 14th August 1855, at the early age of 35.

We next reach a tombstone which commemorates several members of a family who felt pride (as well they might) in numbering among their ancestors Thomas Harkness of Mitchelslacks, who suffered martyrdom for "Christ's Crown and Covenant," and his brother James, also condemned to die by Claverhouse, but who effected his escape from prison, and after twenty years of bitter persecution, lived to enjoy the sweets of the Revolution Settlement at his farm-house of Locherben. The inscription on the monument states that it is in memory of Elizabeth Corrie, widow of William Harkness, farmer, of Holestane and Branrig, died 2d December 1848, aged 72; also of Thomas Harkness, writer and Commissary Clerk, who died in London, 13th August 1860, aged 60; and two brothers of the latter—Walter, a surgeon, died in Canada, 3d January 1834, aged 33, and George, lieutenant of the 61st Foot Regiment, who was unfortunately drowned at Trincomalee, Ceylon, 22d May 1837, aged 29.

In honour of Thomas Harkness, writer, best known to his later contemporaries as Bailie Harkness, we might well devote half a chapter, but a tribute of much smaller dimensions must suffice. He was born at the town of L'Assumption, Lower Canada, of which province his mother was also a native. Two years afterwards (in 1802) his parents settled down on the hereditary acres of Holestane, Upper Nithsdale; and when fully a dozen more years had elapsed, we find young Harkness serving an apprenticeship as a writer's clerk in Dumfries, and by 1828 taking an active and creditable part in public affairs. Inheriting a good organization, mental and physical, due perhaps to his doughty Covenanting ancestors, and with an ardent temperament, in which the French fervour of his mother was discernible, he at an early age became one of our leading men. Politically, "the times were out of joint," and to make them better he strove with all his might and main, through the press, by personal correspondence, and from the platform. The Test and Corporation Acts and the Roman Catholic Disabilities Act still disgraced the statute-book ; the Corn Laws were in full force, making the food of the people artificially scarce and dear ; and the electoral franchise was a monopoly of the favoured few, who too often used it in opposition to the interests of the many : against all these sources of grievance, Mr. Harkness used his ready pen and raised his powerful voice—the Party of Progress having no more zealous or able member throughout the whole South of Scotland than he. Possessed of much natural eloquence and enthusiasm, he as it were threw his whole heart into his lips when denouncing the corrupt boroughmongers or the obstinate obligarchs who withstood the popular cause, and also when appealing in favour of Religious Liberty, Free-trade, and Reform, ever sure in such cases to carry his audience with him and to elicit ringing cheers from them in attestation of his oratorical success. Mr. Harkness was a member of the first Reformed Town Council of Dumfries, receiving from it a bailieship in recognition of his services, local and general. A few years afterwards a more lucrative prize fell to his lot—that of commissary clerkship, which he obtained on the death of its previous possessor, Mr. Threshie, senior. As part proprietor and editor of the *Dumfries Times* for several years, he used the increased influence which that position gave him in the good old direction ; the same may be said of him when he proceeded with the staff and plant of the establishment to Stranraer, where he dropped the *Times* and brought out the *Wigtownshire Free Press* in its stead. To his other attainments Mr. Harkness added a taste for and great knowledge of rural affairs. This being the case it is not so wonderful as it would otherwise have seemed that we find him soon afterwards domiciled away in Dublin as secretary of the Irish Agricultural Society, which office he occupied efficiently, though, we fancy, he was not sorry when circumstances led him to set up his staff anew in the Burgh, with which he had been so long identified. Once more a resident in Dumfries, his last services as such were perhaps his greatest, rendered, as they were, on behalf of the Water Scheme. Writing of what he did, in an obituary notice, we used the following language : " He was emphatically the Hercules of that arduous undertaking, and in saying so we could not suggest a better tributary inscription for the tombstone of Mr. Harkness, as the scheme which he did so much to realise has been instrumental in killing a hydra brood of fever, and in cleaning many places that were once foul as the stables of Augea." He breathed his last at Harrow-on-the-Hill while acting there as guardian of two youthful relatives ; and his remains were laid in the metropolitan cemetery of Norwood, beside those of his loving wife, who predeceased him only a few months. Warm-hearted, benevolent, generous, and gifted, his name will long be cherished in the district, though a generation has sprung up that knows him only by report, and though his dust is mouldering far away from the town that was ever uppermost in his thoughts while life endured.

His brother, Christopher Harkness, a most amiable and useful citizen, died Provost of Dumfries, 17th October 1872, aged 63, and was buried in the churchyard of St. Mary's.

On the adjacent monument, a handsome one of Gothic design, we read, as follows, the appropriately pious epitaph of a very worthy pair :

"The burying-place of James Milligan of Eastfield, by Dumfries. In the faith that 'death shall be swallowed up in victory,' here have been laid the mortal remains of his wife, Ann Inglis, who died 12th February 1860, in hope of a blessed resurrection. By her side, in the hope of together with her putting on immortality, lies the body of her husband, who died 27th November 1862—'looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life.'"

Mr. Milligan was a schoolmaster by profession, a gentleman of culture, and a devoted elder of the United Presbyterian Church. His wife was a daughter of the Rev. William Inglis, and her sister was married to the Rev. James Clyde, both of the same religious denomination.

A neatly kept enclosure, the property of ex-Bailie Carruthers, is next arrived at, where flowers are seen blooming nearly all the year round; and below, as a handsome monument tells us, lie two human flowerets: Sarah Elizabeth Birrell Carruthers, cut off when quite a child, and her infant sister, Maggie Ellen.

"Death gazed at the flowers with tearful eyes,
He kissed their drooping leaves;
It was for the Lord of Paradise
He bound them in his sheaves.

'My Lord has need of these flowerets gay,'
The Reaper said, and smiled;
'Dear tokens of the earth are they,
Where he was once a child.

'They shall all bloom in fields of light,
Transplanted by my care;
And saints upon their garments white
These sacred blossoms wear.'

Oh! not in cruelty, nor in wrath,
The Reaper came that day;
'T was an angel visited the green earth,
And took the flowers away."

Passing on we come to a tombstone thus inscribed:—

"Sacred to the memory of the Rev. Walter Dunlop, who died on the 4th November 1846, in the 73d year of his age and the 43d of his ministry."

For fully thirty-five years he officiated in that capacity over a congregation that owed its existence to such a seemingly trifling circumstance as a quarrel about a pulpit gown; which *casus belli* the Relief minister would wear in opposition to many of his people, who consequently set up a meeting-house of their own on the Burghers' Brae, Buccleuch Street, and gave a call to Mr. Dunlop, born in Haddingtonshire, and at that time officiating in Liddesdale. Soon after his induction he gave evidence of being no ordinary individual. Tall, and even when young inclined to corpulency, his outward man was remarkable. His face, reposing on a sonsie doublechin, bespoke quiet self-reliance, a love of social intercourse, humour, wit, shrewdness, also active observing powers, which enabled him with "sharpened sly inspection" to see farther than most folks into the millstone grit of human character. Ere long he became known far and wide as a humourist; and while acquiring more than a local reputation as such, he was proving himself to be an eloquent expounder of gospel doctrine and a devoted pastor, assiduously building up his congregation till it became numerous and flourishing. Mr. Dunlop is remembered by many on account of his bon-mots and jokes; and thousands who have heard of him as a famous wit, are ignorant of the circumstance that he was also distinguished as a preacher. His pulpit oratory was of a rich yet homely cast, that rendered it acceptable to every class; not too high or rhetorical for the simple or unlearned, it was sufficiently elevated for the man of taste, thus presenting a good medium for the edification of a flock composed as his was of town and country people in about equal proportions. In the pulpit as out of it, Mr. Dunlop, scorning the use of notes, "ay free off hand his story told," rendering it all the more impressive by appropriate attitude and action. "Simple, grave, sincere," he was "in doctrine uncorrupt," full of unction, and thoroughly evangelical. Occasionally, but rarely, witticisms found their way into his pulpit utterances; as for instance, when on a weekly preaching day at a neighbouring village, some of his dilatory hearers were told by way of rebuke, that our Lord drove the worldly-minded money-changers *from* the temple with a whip of small cords, whereas they at Ecclefechan needed to be driven *into* the temple by means of a similar weapon. Often, however, he employed with telling effect quaint illustrations, as when showing the worthlessness of good works to secure pardon, he would say that the mountain of man's sin and misery could no more be removed by such means than his wee finger could push Criffel into the Solway. On the platform his humour flashed forth with full license, and his table-talk and social intercourse were spiced with pun, repartee, sarcasm, and mirth-provoking anecdote; his sayings in every case receiving superadded point or breadth from the racy Doric in which they were embodied, the spontaneousness of their birth, and their mode of delivery—grave, slow, measured, and emphatic. Standing as we do beside the grave of Mr. Dunlop, it is gratifying for us to mingle with these reminiscences the recollections of his pulpit power and of his pastoral fidelity. Eminent as a preacher of the Word, he was devotedly attentive at the couch of suffering, and at the bed of death; and, as we have said of him elsewhere, if his natural temperament led him to the house of mirth, it never induced him to neglect his visits to the house of mourning.

The monument commemorates also Mr. Dunlop's spouse, Janet Maclean, who died on the 12th of June 1828. His successor in the pastorate of the United Presbyterian congregation, Buccleuch Street, is the Rev. Marshal N. Goold.

The name of an accomplished surgeon, John M'Minn, is borne by the next monument: he died at the early age of 33, 6th October 1827. His eldest son, John, who died at the same age in Glasgow, and his infant son, Thomas Harkness (named after Mr. M'Minn's brother-in-law, Bailie Harkness), are included in the inscription.

When Burns was tenant of Ellisland, he found in Mr. John M'Murdo, chamberlain to the Duke of Queensberry at Drumlanrig Castle, a most hospitable companion and patron; and the family circle thus opened up afforded attractive society, proofs of which appear in his correspondence. "Will Mr. M'Murdo do me the favour to accept of these volumes"—wrote Burns, when forwarding a copy of his works from Dumfries—"a trifling but sincere mark of the very high respect I bear for his worth as a man, his manners as a gentleman, and his kindness as a friend." Three songs, if not more, were composed by Burns on Miss Philadelphia M'Murdo, the beautiful and accomplished daughter of his patron, these being "Phillis the Fair," "O Phely, happy be that day," and the one beginning—

"Adown winding Nith I did wander,
  To mark the sweet flowers of the spring;
Adown winding Nith I did wander,
  Of Phillis to muse and to sing."

Owing to these associations, we view with increased interest the next monument, commemorating as it does a son of Mr. M'Murdo, and one of several of his descendants who have served their country well by land or sea. The inscription states that the stone is

> "Sacred to the memory of Lieut.-Colonel Archibald M'Murdo, formerly of H.M. 27th Regiment of Foot, and latterly of the Dumfriesshire Regiment of the North British Militia, who died at Dumfries on the 11th of October 1829, aged 54 years."

He was father of the late Colonel M'Murdo of the Scottish Borderers; of the late Admiral Archibald M'Murdo of Cargenholm; and of Colonel William Montagu M'Murdo, favourite officer of his renowned father-in-law, Sir Charles Napier, the hero of Scinde. The monument commemorates also his wife, Catherine Martha Wilson; their young daughter Mary Ann, and Mrs. Winefred Copenger Sweetman, died 1st June 1826, aged 75.

We next reach the burial-place of another chief-magistrate, John Kerr. He was raised to the civic chair in 1821, and on the 3d August of the following year his shoulders received the virgin gold chain with which our provosts have since his day been decorated. It is a magnificent double chain, the cost of which, defrayed by subscription, was nearly £150. The Rev. Dr. Scot of St. Michael's made the necessary presentation speech in name of the donors, Provost Kerr returning grateful thanks for the glittering badge. It has since been worn by nineteen successors, including our present worthy civic chief, Provost Thomas F. Smith. Mr. Kerr was re-elected in 1825, and died in office, on the 6th of March 1826, aged 53. The monument to his memory was erected by his brother, Mr. James Kerr.

CHAPTER XIII.

ALONG THE THIRD FOOTPATH.

BEFORE proceeding again eastward, we pause for a minute beside the grave of one who was famous as a municipal magnate in the Queen of the South for fully thirty years; a native of Edinburgh, he entered the King's Arms Hotel here in 1819, when in comparatively humble circumstances and almost an entire stranger. How during his sojourn he prospered in business, and acquired a wonderful extent of local influence and rule, is partly expressed by the inscription upon his stately tombstone, which runs thus:—

> "In memory of John Fraser, Esquire of Douievale and the King's Arms Hotel, twice Provost and thirty-seven years a member of the Town Council of Dumfries, who died 8th May 1856."

He possessed extraordinary force of character, and without any pretensions to eloquence or brilliancy, he could exercise an impressive personal influence, due to his mingled suavity and power of self-assertion, that was in no small degree seductive. Doubtless, too, a portion of the power he exercised was due to the circumstance that he was owner and landlord of the greatest hotel in the South of Scotland. Many a knotty local question was originated, promoted, or otherwise disposed of, and many a political game was rehearsed in the snug bar parlour of the King's Arms, under the genial presidency of Provost Fraser. Politically, he belonged to the Tory party, was, in fact, their acknowledged Burgh leader during the critical season when they fought and were overcome, but were by no means annihilated, in the attempt made by them to withstand the Reform movement of 1831-2. What his influence lost in breadth by his becoming the chief of a party it gained in intensity; and a more devoted body of followers than those who owned his leadership he could scarcely have wished for. After "serving his time" briefly as a common Councillor, he was made a Bailie in 1827; before other two years had elapsed the ancient chair which bears upon its back the significant effigy of St. Michael received him for occupant, and we suspect it had never before borne such a portly chief-magistrate, Provost Fraser having been a man of mark physically not less than mentally. Strong Conservative though he was, he accepted the commission of the Town Council to vote as their delegate for General Sharpe when the latter came forward as a Liberal to contest the Burghs with Mr. Keith Douglas in 1831. After the Burgh Reform Act had broken up the cliques which returned both Parliamentary and municipal representatives, Mr. Fraser still retained much of his supremacy. The last save one of the Dumfries Provosts under the old regime, he was a member of the first Town Council under the new; and in 1840 he was once more elevated to the provostship, manifesting, as before, no small amount of administrative skill. During the last twenty years of his life he devoted considerable attention to agricultural pursuits. When Douievale became his property, it was a bleak portion of Lochar Moss : it is now, as occupied by his daughter, Mrs. Ferguson, a fertile and beautiful spot, reclaimed from the wilderness by the same sort of energy that gave him a mastery over his fellow-men. The deceased was strong in his antipathies as in his friendships. When some one spoke of Dr. Johnson as being bearish in his manner, Goldsmith defended his friend by saying he had no more of the bear about him than the skin; and if Mr. Fraser did at times seem rough and dictatorial, all who knew him best were aware that he was extremely warm-hearted, generous, and benevolent, and that these qualities influenced his character, and were habitually manifested in deeds of charity and kindness.

On the monument are the names of his wife Margaret and nine of their children—Matthew, who died in infancy; Margaret, at 21; Robert, at the same age; William, at 22; George, at 23; Ann, at 28; Alexander, at 32; John, at 33; James, at 34.

William Walker of Kelton Mains, one of three enterprising brothers, two of whom, after making fortunes abroad, returned to their native Nithsdale, lies in the next compartment. He is described as "formerly of St. Thomas in the East, Jamaica." His death took place 27th October 1820, when at the age of 60. Colonel Walker, of Crawfordton, ex-M.P. for Dumfriesshire, is of the same family, the deceased having been his grand-uncle. The fine monument which keeps Mr. Walker in remembrance, is also consecrated to the memory of his wife Margaret, daughter of the Rev. Dr. Burnside; and two of her sisters, as we have already seen, were married respectively to the brothers Robert and William Taylor, buried a few yards further west.

When surveying the next tombstone, sacred to the memory of William Hood, Mount Pleasance, nursery and seedsman, who died 22d August 1827, aged 65, we cannot but think of the plants and flowers which he cultivated, some of them, at the time we write, still waiting in the fields around to hear the voice of Spring "and flourish green again;" while the planter of them shall experience no revival

"Until the eternal morning wake
The slumbers of the tomb."

Yet the floral tribes rising anew above the clod typify the destiny of man, even as it is said:

"In all places, then, and in all seasons,
Flowers expand their light and soul-like wings;
Teaching us, by most persuasive reasons,
How akin they are to human things.

And with child-like credulous affection,
We behold their tender buds expand;
Emblems of our own great resurrection,
Emblems of the bright and better land."

Mr. Hood had the honour of presiding over a meeting of gardeners, at which was founded the Dumfriesshire and Galloway Horticultural Society, whose jubilee was celebrated by an extraordinary demonstration on its fiftieth anniversary, 5th September 1862. To the Hoods, the Kennedys, and the Learmonts the horticulture of the district is much indebted. Elizabeth, wife of William Hood, who bore the singular maiden name of Feast; their children, James, who died at 18, Thomas at 36, Maria Veranna and William Edwin whose ages are not specified; and Maria Skeavington, wife of the latter, are included in the inscription. Another William Hood, of Holybush, who carried on the business of the family, is commemorated by a handsome monument in one of the inner sections; also, Mary, his wife: he died 25th December 1829, aged 30.

A neat little headstone near by is dedicated to the memory of Jane, daughter of Captain M'Dowall, of the 7th Dragoon Guards, and Isabella Wright, his grandniece, both of whom died in childhood. That officer, who lies in the churchyard of St. Mary's, began life as a humble member of the King's Arms establishment, and having been led to "take the shilling" by the Marquis of Queensberry at a time when recruits were scarce, he was eventually rewarded by receiving a commission. On retiring from the army he purchased a house in Castle Street, where, however, he did not "lay himself up in lavender," but proved on the contrary a useful member of our community, promoting its charities, and taking an active part in its religious and political movements till his death.

Reference was made in a previous chapter to Mr. John M'Murdo, chamberlain at Drumlanrig, as a distinguished friend of Burns; and we have now to notice the monument of a brother-in-law of the former and another friend of the latter, Colonel de Peyster. The gentleman last named was of French extraction, if not a native of France; but he served as a British officer in Upper Canada during the most stirring period of the American war. When his campaigns abroad and his peaceful service at home were over, he settled down at Mavis Grove, near Dumfries, his hold upon the locality being strengthened by his marrying Miss Rebecca Blair, a daughter of Provost Blair, who presided over the Burgh in 1790-1-2, Mr. M'Murdo having been wedded to another daughter. When Burns, towards the close of 1791, came from Ellisland to spend his closing years at Dumfries, he would probably be introduced to Colonel de Peyster by his near relative, the chamberlain. Soon after, at all events, a cordial intercourse sprung up between them. The gallant officer was frank, warm-hearted, and accomplished, with much poetical sensibility, which found expression at times in verse of considerable merit. Personally, he was tall, soldier-like, and commanding, even in extreme old age standing firm and erect, "like veteran worn but unsubdued." He was of great service to the district of his adoption in many respects. By him the 1st Regiment of Dumfries Volunteers, of which, we need scarcely say, Burns was a member, was effectively trained. Some time in April 1796, when the shadows of coming death were beginning to gather round the head of the national bard, he addressed a poetical epistle, one of the best he ever penned, to his worthy friend, beginning

"My honoured Colonel, deep I feel
Your interest in the poet's weal;"

and in which he moralises on human life as it might be, "would fortune favour worth and merit as they deserve," and on his own experience of it, "flickering, feeble, and unsiccar, aye wavering like the willow-wicker." Colonel de Peyster survived the poet twenty-six years, his lease of life stretching out to 96 years. He was buried with military honours; and those who are old enough to remember the funeral pageant speak of it as having been highly imposing. The following well-written inscription appears upon the monument :—

"Sacred to the memory of Arent Schuyler de Peyster of Mavis Grove, who died on the 26th of November 1822, at a very advanced age, of which upwards of sixty years were devoted to the service of his King and country. He was no less distinguished by his loyalty and honourable principles than by the cordiality of his manners, and the warmth and sincerity of his friendships; and his memory will long be cherished and revered by those who enjoyed the happiness of his acquaintance. Of the Christian humility of his mind, a fair estimate may be formed from the following simple lines, written by him within a week of his death :

'Raise no vain structure o'er my grave—
One simple stone is all I crave ;
To say beneath a sinner lies,
Who died in hopes again to rise,
Through Christ alone, to be forgiven,
And fitted for the joys of heaven.'"

On the plinth of the structure the name of his wife, Rebecca, is inscribed.

The *Courier*, in its obituary notice of the deceased, gives an anecdote which is worth repeating. His late majesty, George IV., was noted for his ability to remember persons introduced to him at any time, and of this faculty his early intercourse with the deceased afforded a striking illustration. "At one time the Colonel commanded the garrison at Plymouth, and, while discharging that duty, he had occasion to be introduced to the Prince of Wales, then, we presume, a very young man. This circumstance his Majesty perfectly remembered; and while conversing with the Marquis of Queensberry, during his late visit to Scotland [in 1822], he very kindly inquired whether his old friend the Colonel was still alive. His lordship replied in the affirmative, and at the same time stated that nothing but the advanced age and growing infirmities of his spouse had prevented him from visiting Holyrood on so interesting an occasion. 'Well,' said His Majesty, 'I am sorry for it: they were always a loving, and now must be a truly venerable, couple, for one of the oldest things I remember is having danced *Monimusk* with Mrs. de Peyster."

To many hundreds of those who sleep below the sods of St. Michael's, the man who slumbers with them in the tomb now arrived at, was "guide, philosopher, and friend," directing their thoughts on all public questions, social and political, recording the daily ongoings of the community to which they belonged, discussing also for their instruction all objects of interest in the big world beyond their limited circle, and exercising a great personal as well as professional influence by his social accomplishments, his geniality, and his warmth of heart. For more than a generation Mr. John M'Diarmid of the *Courier*, whose neat monument suggests these remarks, occupied the rank of an intellectual potentate, not only in Dumfries, but throughout the three Southern Counties; and he left a mark upon the minds of their population which was not effaced when his pen of power fell from the fingers which had so long used it as a sceptre; the impress still enduring, together with a feeling of respect for his memory, which deepens rather than decreases as the years roll along. Mr. M'Diarmid was a native of Comrie, and while holding an influential position in the Commercial Bank, Edinburgh, he accepted the editorship of the *Dumfries and Galloway Courier* when offered to him, as the situation was congenial to his taste, and one which his natural ability, early training, and self-culture fitted him to fill. Under his management the *Courier* soon acquired increased life, and it eventually, as our readers know, became one of the most renowned and successful of provincial journals, with some special characteristics of its own, in which it was long unrivalled, such as rural articles, topographical sketches, droll stories, and marvellous paragraphs; the latter so frequent of occurrence that our locality came to be looked upon by outsiders as a veritable Wonderland. Though much engrossed by his journalistic duties, he rendered good service as a citizen, and published some valuable contributions to general literature. The tombstone bears the following inscription:

> "In memoriam John M'Diarmid, author of 'The Scrap Book,' 'Sketches from Nature,' 'Life of Cowper,' and other Literary Works; Editor and Proprietor of the *Dumfries and Galloway Courier*, which journal he conducted for the period of thirty-five years. He died on the 18th November 1852, aged 63 years."

The monument bears the name of his amiable wife, Anna M'Knight, of their sons Henry Duncan and Hugh James, who died in infancy, and of Anna, their eldest daughter, of whom it was recorded when she died, 5th December 1869, that she possessed many gifts and graces, and "all her great natural endowments and varied accomplishments were consecrated to purposes of religion and charity."

In the neighbouring plot lie the remains of a worthy burgess and Trades' Convener, Thomas Milligan, plumber; of his wife, Alison Wight Anderson; their four sons—George cut off in infancy, Thomas died at Rio Janeiro, aged 27, John Anderson when 33, and Robert, at New York, when 37; also a daughter-in-law, Agnes Morison Clingan, wife of Alexander Milligan, died at Rosefield, Annan, aged 35. Mr. Milligan, as we learn from the handsome monument erected to his memory, died on the 2d of June 1857, aged 72. One of his daughters is Lady Anderson, the wife of our distinguished townsman, Sir James Anderson, knighted for his services in laying the Electric Cable that unites America with Europe.

A gentleman of eminence and worth, Robert Adamson of Drumclyer, writer and banker, receives commemoration on the adjoining monument. He died 10th October 1861, aged 73. As agent for the British Linen Company's Bank, treasurer to the Crichton Institution, and in his professional capacity as a solicitor, he led a busy, active life, and was called upon to exercise manifold important duties, which his powerful intellect, indomitable industry, and sterling worth enabled him to do with fidelity and success. Quoting from the *Standard's* obituary notice, let us add that "he was recognised as an able lawyer, as a model man of business, and, spite of what strangers might have deemed coldness of manner, was courteous, kind-hearted, and benevolent—a thorough gentleman, whom to know well was to love and esteem." On the inscription appear the names of his spouse, Ann M'Millan; of their eldest daughter, wife of the Rev. Thomas Johnstone of Anwoth; and of another daughter, Marion, who died in infancy.

On the next monument we read the name of Miles Leighton, merchant, J.P., and thrice Provost of Dumfries, who died 27th January 1875, at the venerable age of 90. The inscription includes the names of his wife, Elizabeth Ridley, and their offspring, as follows: Jane and John, who died in infancy; Mary Elizabeth, at 8 years; Caroline, at 14; and Matthew, who emigrated to Boston, United States, where he died 26th July 1854, aged 36. Catherine Ridley, Mrs. Leighton's sister, who was 87 when she died, 23d May 1875, is buried in the same compartment.

Mr. Leighton was born at Sedbergh, a village in the North-West Riding of Yorkshire, was bred to mercantile pursuits, and at a very early age "took the road" as a commercial traveller. Before he had seen twenty summers he had crossed the Western Border, not for raiding purposes, like many of his Yorkshire countrymen in the olden time, but in quest of trade. The young "rider," as men of his occupation were called at that period, was pleased with the banks of

Nith, thought he might do worse than stable his steed in Dumfries, and accordingly he began operations for himself here fully sixty years since—thereby planting a small sapling which grew up rapidly till it has become a mighty tree in the world of trade. It was chiefly as a corkcutter and drysalter that he was first known in his new place of abode. He would have begun business at once as a general grocer, but the "bit of sheepskin," costing £13 6s 8d, stood in the way. Mr. Leighton had imbibed Free-trade notions before the birth of Cobden, and was a Reformer while yet the old close system flourished in Dumfries, according to which no one could open shop as a merchant without first purchasing a ticket at the rate named above, or by connection or special favour acquiring the privileges of burgess-ship. Against this exaction Mr. Leighton set his face firmly and on principle, and though he had to submit to it for a time, he did much to bring it into increased disrepute, if not to hurry on its abolition.

At this period, and before Parliamentary Reform became popular, he was looked upon by many of his more timid fellow-townsmen as somewhat of a revolutionist: it was known that he and other kindred spirits indulged in what was deemed the dangerous luxury of a London newspaper that had proclivities towards Radicalism; which circumstance, coupled with his crusade against the burgess monopoly and his outspoken advocacy of other reforms, local and imperial, would probably have made him an object of suspicion had he not won his way to general confidence and favour by his urbanity in other respects, his thorough respectability, and his unimpeachable integrity. About forty years ago, when Mr. John Bright, as the apostle of Free-trade in corn, addressed a public meeting in Dumfries, Mr. Leighton appeared with him, giving the advocate and his cause all the local support he was able to command. Soon after the views he held thus early in favour of Reform were given effect to by the Legislature, he was made a member of the Town Council, to the duties of which office he devoted much attention for many years, even when his growing business as a merchant made an increased demand upon his time. He also became a member of the Nith Commission, in which capacity he acquired much repute, more especially by the successful mode in which he, as chairman of the Trust, dealt with a heavy debt that was paralysing its energies. With the great sanitary Water Scheme he was also honourably associated; and he was made chairman of the Benefit and Building Society when it was started, in 1859, the honour being annually renewed so long as his strength continued, and he gave more than the influence of his good name to promote the prosperity of that valuable institution. Seven years before the date just mentioned, the highest municipal rank was conferred upon him; he who had entered Dumfries as a stranger in 1815 having risen gradually, yet steadily, till his worth was attested and his public services were recognised by being called to the civic chair, as Provost Leighton, in 1852. His management of the Council while presiding over its discussions was characterised by great tact, business talent, and fairness. He was a justice of the peace as well as a Burgh magistrate; and when sitting on the Bench usually took a broad, common-sense view of the cases before him, and allowed the "twice-blessed" quality of mercy to receive full scope in his decisions. In 1856, when the Burgh lost its chief magistrate by the death of Provost M'Gowan, Mr. Leighton was appointed his successor; and so popular was he with the Council and the whole community that in 1857 he was a third time elevated to the provostship.

Provost Leighton was a devoted Episcopalian of the Evangelical school, and at the time of his death was, we believe, the last of the original trustees connected with the congregation that is ministered to by the Rev. Mr M'Ewen, M.A., in the Church of St. John the Evangelist. After what has been already stated we need scarcely add that the Provost was a decided Liberal in politics, but he was neither a bitter partizan nor a bigoted sectarian; a keen opponent of the Conservatives they yet could not help admiring him for his candour, manliness, and love of fair play. With the poorer classes he was a great favourite. Sufficiently dignified for his position, he was yet void of all hauteur; the word caste had no place in his vocabulary; and humble folks knew and felt that in him they had a friend who had sympathy for them, and was ever ready to serve them by word or deed. As the head of an extensive mercantile firm, he was noted for his enterprise, breadth of view, and probity, qualities which contributed greatly to his business success. Eminently social, Mr. Leighton was at the same time moderate in his desires and temperate in his habits. He habitually wore a pleasant expression; and while yet amongst us we have often felt that to him the well known lines were particularly applicable:

> "Though to his share some trivial errors fall,
> Look in his face, and you forget them all."

A deep feeling of regret was experienced by all classes of our community when the end came, and his pleasant countenance was changed and his hoary head laid low.

Of the terrible Indian Mutiny we are reminded by an inscription on the next monument, in memory of Captain William Dalzell, of the 93d Highlanders. That gallant young officer took part in the assault upon the outpost of Secundabagh, when Sir Colin Campbell was fighting his way to the relief of Lucknow in November 1857. The place was desperately defended, but it was carried by escalade on the 16th, after a fierce struggle, which cost the assailants some precious lives—Captain Dalzell, among others, falling mortally wounded, and dying soon afterwards, at the age of 27. The monument is in memory also of his father, Captain William Denholm Dalzell, of the Madras Army, died 3d September 1837, aged 42; and of Jane Hughan, wife of James Dalzell, died 10th December 1842, aged 78.

To the memory of John Berwick of Albany Bank, long the energetic, successful, and respected head of a large drapery establishment in Dumfries, the next tombstone is dedicated. He died 27th July 1845, aged 55. It rises in memory also of Margaret M'Monnies his wife; their children, William, who died at 24; Margaret at 44; Robina at 42; three who died in infancy; Janet Halliday, relict of James Berwick, farmer, Ardwell, died 8th March 1822, aged 62; and an infant child of Thomas and Jane Lonsdale.

There was no house in Dumfries in which Burns was a more familiar and welcome guest than the one at Nith Place, occupied by Mr. Gabriel Richardson, whose "narrow house" in St. Michael's we have now reached. He carried on a large business as a brewer, and at the time when he used to be visited by his distinguished guest, he was a leading councillor of the Burgh, though it was not till some years afterwards that he became provost. From 1791 to 1796 the poet frequently spent a few hours on Sabbath evenings at Mr. Richardson's fireside, besides looking in on week days occasionally. Among his admirers in the family there was none more ardent than the eldest child, John, though only nine years of age at the last-mentioned date. We need scarcely say that the boy on whom the irresistible glamour of the bard was thrown at such a susceptible period grew up to be a great traveller and naturalist. On one occasion, as we learn from the biography of Sir John Richardson, Burns pointed out some of the Paraphrases which he most admired, and urged his young disciple to get them off by heart—one of them being the beautiful one, beginning

> "How bright these glorious spirits shine,
> Whence all their white array?"

At eight years of age the future traveller entered the grammar school, on the same day with the poet's eldest son. "John never forgot Burns's bright smile and flashing eye when he said to his father, 'I wonder which of them will be the greatest man.' The boys were passionately fond of ballad poetry, young Burns excelling in narrative and recitation. Spenser's 'Fairy Queen,' borrowed from the poet, was a special favourite of John Richardson, and the notice taken of him by Burns made a permanent impression on his mind."* On another occasion, when the conversation at the family circle turned upon the transitory nature of all mundane things, Burns, taking from his waistcoat pocket the diamond pen which he usually carried about with him, said he would furnish beforehand a fitting epitaph for his host. He then, on one of the tumblers with which the festive board was furnished, inscribed the following lines :—

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* M'Ilwraith's *Life of Sir John Richardson*, p. 3.

"Here brewer Gabriel's fire's extinct,
And empty all his barrels ;
He's blest, if as he brewed he drink—
In upright virtuous morals."

The vessel thus inscribed was presented by Mrs. Richardson to her son, Sir John, during one of his visits to Dumfries, after he had won laurels as an explorer of the Arctic regions, and it remains a cherished heirloom at Lancrigg, Westmoreland, the seat of his widow, daughter of the beautiful and accomplished Mrs. Fletcher, whose "Autobiography," edited by Lady Richardson, is one of the finest works of the kind in the language. Mr. Richardson became Provost of Dumfries in 1801. As such he acquitted himself admirably, and was popular alike with rich and poor. His epitaph is in the following terms :

"Sacred to the memory of Gabriel Richardson, a native of the parish of Kirkpatrick-Juxta, who, born in humble circumstances on the lands of Kellobank, once the property of his ancestors, was early inured to toil; but discharging with great industry and the utmost probity the duties of various situations in life, he gradually, by the blessing of God on his honest endeavours, acquired the means, and liberally exercised the power, of assisting others. His rise was accompanied by the esteem and confidence of his fellow-citizens, who called him to fill in succession the offices of Councillor, Bailie, and Provost of Dumfries. For many years of his life he was an active Justice of the Peace for the County. He died on 26th January, A.D. 1820, aet. 61."

The next monument is in memory of Robert Bevan, died 14th March 1843, aged 73, and of Isabella Monies, his spouse.

This upper class section of the Burial-ground has as a fitting terminus a stately monument raised over the compartment where lie William Gordon, writer, much esteemed as a citizen and professional gentleman, who died 16th August 1829, aged 63; Mary Mitchelson Crosbie, his spouse; also a daughter, Margaret, who died at 50; his daughter-in-law, Mary Brocklebank, spouse of ex-Provost James Gordon; two sons of the latter, who died in infancy, and a daughter, Bessie, who died at the age of 12.

CHAPTER XIV.

INNER SECTIONS—NUMBER ONE.

PARALLEL with the foregoing walk, in a northerly direction, there stretches a spacious oblong section, abounding with headstones pointing out the family plots of numerous tradesmen and others, such as the following: Nicholas Lindsay, weaver, died 4th July 1818, aged 38, with Charlotte Edgar, his spouse, and their young daughter Nicholas; Thomas Easton, hosier, died 9th October 1832, aged 40, with his wife, Christina Johnston, and Ann, their daughter; Samuel Dale, who plied the shuttle in the same way till he was 72, experiencing doubtless that "the web of life is of a mingled yarn," and, dying 11th December 1874, three days after his aged partner, Grace Maxwell, breathed her last, they were buried together on the same day, beside seven of their youthful children; also another stocking-maker, Joseph Haining, died April 1840 (age not stated), with Margaret Nicholson, his spouse, James Nicholson, her brother, died at Miramichi, 4th September 1848, aged 66, Margaret Richardson, wife of the latter, and five of their children, none of whom outlived infancy except William, who died at 10, and Jane, who died 13th January 1874 (age not mentioned): within the enclosure appears a white marble cross, very tastefully executed, bearing on its plinth the name "Jane," and on an encircling band the words "Come, Lord Jesu."

Of old respected Squaremen we find several representatives: John Bell, joiner, died 22d June 1847, aged 71, with his wife, Margaret Wright, their child-daughter Janet, and his second wife, Janet Geddes; John Walker, upholsterer, died 23d April 1836, aged 67, with his spouse, Mary Grant, and their two infant children; William B. Denniston, cabinetmaker, died 31st July 1864, aged 71, with Jane Hope, his spouse; Robert Edgar, cabinetmaker, died 13th May 1876, aged 79, with Mary M'Knight, his spouse, and four of their youthful children, the oldest, Helen, having been 14: he was sprung from a family that have been resident in Carlaverock for many centuries, was a warm-hearted, obliging man, and long famous as a local vocalist. Two headstones further west commemorate some members of a related family: Charles Edgar died 1st September 1843, aged 69, William, died at Melbourne, aged 45, and three other children, cut off when young; John Edgar, son of Charles, died at Friars' Creek, Australia, in 1860, aged 42, and Margaret Edgar, died in 1866, aged 58. On another stone infancy, youth, and age are shewn in three generations of one family, that of John Wallace, mason, whose father, William, died 5th February 1861, at fourscore, whose wife, Jean Irving, died 12th December 1848, at 37, and four of their offspring, the oldest of whom, William, died at 12. In the slating business of the Burgh none occupied a higher place than Newall Irving for many years, though, as we learn from his tombstone, he died at the early age of 38, on 7th June 1839. His father, Thomas Irving, also a slater, died 13th June 1832, aged 80; his mother, Jean Grieve; their daughter Agnes, who died at 25, and five infants of the family, are commemorated by a neighbouring tombstone; also Thomas, son of Newall, who died in childhood.

Several Hammermen, struck down by Death's resistless hand, lie also here: David Dickson, whitesmith, died 25th May 1833, aged 46, with Elizabeth Lawrence, his spouse, and two infant children; also Mary Dickson, wife of Charles Lauder, veterinary surgeon, died 1st March 1861, aged 54, with two infant children; John Wilson, designated as a coppersmith, and who among other extensive operations laid the pipes which supply gas to the Burgh, died 30th September 1832, aged 57, with Janet Staig, his spouse, five of their offspring who died in infancy, and his second wife, Mary M'Lean; John M'Nairn, nailmaker, died 28th June 1866, aged 56.

The brass-founding business of the Burgh was for about fifty years in the hands of Thomas Aitken and his son William, both of them very ingenious mechanics; and the son of the latter also named William, inheriting the family talent, rose to high distinction as a designer in metals and as an art critic at Birmingham, where he died 24th March 1875. Thomas Aitken, as we learn from the memorial-stone, died 3d January 1821, aged 65 : his wife, Margaret Kerr ; their son William, died 2d June 1847, aged 59 ; and Maryanne, their daughter (age not stated), are also mentioned in the inscription.

William Aitken (secundus) is well remembered in Dumfries by many, chiefly as associated with the Mechanics' Institute, and with the Fine Arts Exhibition held under its auspices in 1841, the success of which was greatly due to his enterprise, labour, and skill. The *Birmingham Morning News*, in its obituary notice of Mr. Aitken, says :—"Allied with his enthusiasm, and innate knowledge of the beautiful, he possessed a practical acquaintance with some of the most important of Birmingham trades. For many years manager or head of one of the departments of Messrs Winfield's extensive works, he was enabled from this position, and its facilities, to acquire what so many of our theorists want, viz., practical knowledge. And this is evinced in his article entitled "Brass, and brass manufactures," perhaps the most important paper in Mr. Sam Timmins' "Industrial History of Birmingham." He formed a link between our manufacturers on the one side and the art world on the other, and the dream of his life was to see the treasures of South Kensington, and the riches there, disgorged and distributed throughout the provinces. Every movement of an intelligent character for the last thirty years started in Birmingham he was identified with. Indefatigable, and willing always to under take what he was so peculiarly adapted for, it was not surprising that the purely commercial institution, the Chamber of Commerce, should invite him to accompany the artizan reporters to the Paris Exhibition in 1867, and afterwards to edit the volume of reports, which was the outcome of that visit. Subsequently, he undertook a similar task in a journey to Vienna in 1873, and a second volume of reports was edited by him, and published last year. This valuable practical knowledge is shewn in his other papers in Mr. Timmins' book, on "Cast and Electro Deposit Statuary in Bronze and Copper," and another "On the Revived Art of Metal-working in Brass and Iron on Mediæval Principles," and a fourth on "Coffin Furniture," four of the most valuable and interesting contributions in the volume, and which are alone a record of his industry and research. His devotion to the School of Design may be said to have been its sheet anchor; whilst others, from overwhelming duties or indifference, neglected it, he quietly and regularly attended, and all that a single man could do for it he did. Upon every opportunity, in season and out of season, he advocated its claims on the manufacturers of Birmingham, who too often turned a deaf ear; whilst he did not forget to press and importune Mr. Cole, C.B., of South Kensington, for examples of the art treasures stowed away there, and therefore useless, though bought with the nation's money, and, metropolitan-like, selfishly refused to the less favoured provinces. The public opinion that is growing upon this subject may be said to be of his creation. Naturally liberal and kind-hearted, a man of great refinement of taste, an honest and able critic, his death at the early age of 58 will be felt as a great loss for a long time to come." Mr Aitken was married to Elizabeth, daughter of Robert Wright, baker, Dumfries.

Of late years Dumfries has been taking a very leading part in the manufacture of confectionery goods; one firm, that of James M'Gregor & Son, rivalling the great establishments of Edinburgh and Glasgow, whether as regards quality of goods or range of trade. Their *bon bons*, as the French term them, are "familiar in the mouths" of gentle folks and simple, and have even secured the patronage of royalty, as is shown by the Queen's arms which decorates the door piece of their premises in High Street. The founder of this flourishing business, Hugh M'Gregor, a pious as well as industrious man, is commemorated by a headstone in this section; as also his worthy helpmate Agnes Johnston, who survived him ten years. He died 2d June 1853, aged 72.

Among the sports of Dumfries in old times the Carters' Races occupied no mean place. On the 15th of April 1662, the Town Council ordered their Treasurer to provide a silver bell four ounces in weight to be run for every second Tuesday in May by the work-horses of the Burgh, "according to the aunciente custome."* About the last competition of this kind took place in 1845. The same useful class of men have since made an imposing display at several public processions, especially the one which signalised the Burns Centenary, when each wearing the characteristic broad blue bonnet, and bestriding

"A filly buirdly, steeve, and swank,
Which set weel down a shapely shank,
As eer tread yird,
An could hae flown out ower a stank,
Like onie bird,"

they paraded with the foot-marchers through the principal streets of the Burgh. Most of the carters used to be domiciled in the Kirkgate which passes by the place where—unhorsed and prostrate, their own race run—many of them lie, the section under notice containing at least three : William Glencross, died 1st February 1822, aged 46 ; George Crosbie, died 1st January 1866 ; and John M'Conochie, died 17th June 1850, aged 82, with Mary M'Lean, his spouse. On the headstone that commemorates the last-named pair appear also the names of James M'Conochie, who died at Lochmaben 12th December 1874, aged 79 ; his wife Margaret Dalgleish, and other relatives.

George Barron, sawyer, died 11th June 1849, aged 74, with his spouse, Georgina Campbell, and daughter Ann, died at 64; James Stewart, tailor, died 24th June 1823, aged 54, with Jane Cowan, his spouse, John, their infant, James, another son, who died at 28, a daughter Helen, with her husband John James, who died in October 1836 ; Isabella Barry, wife of William Stewart, died 8th January 1848, aged 39, with six of their children, including George, who died at 9, and James at 16 ; Richard M'Dougall, tailor, died 4th October 1832, aged 51, with Marion Richardson, his wife, six of their youthful children; two infant children of George M'Dougall, who followed the same trade; Janet M'Gowan, spouse of James Parker, tailor, died 20th May 1831, aged 56; George Currie, saddler, died 18th December 1866, aged 20; Margaret, died at 17, and Elizabeth at 18, daughters of Samuel Spence, shoemaker; John Weir, printer, died April 14th, 1826, aged 20; Joseph Wharton, hostler, died 29th September 1841, aged 64, with his infant son; Joseph Langhorne, horsebreaker, died 2d October 1832, aged 63, with Elizabeth Scott, his wife, and their children Joseph, died at 11, Ellen at 25, John at 39, with the spouse of the latter Margaret Wilson, and a son, who died in childhood; Margaret Clark, spouse of William Hannay, died at Newton-Stewart, 12th May 1848, aged 42, with three of their infant offspring; Agnes Cowan, died 4th December 1849, aged 84; Harriet Newton, spouse of Thomas Woodhouse, mail-guard, died 19th January 1842, aged 27, with an infant daughter; five young children of Andrew Hunter; a young child of Reuben Fildes, hatter; two children of George Gowanlock in Mossband; John Maxwell Charteris, a maker of fishing-rods, died 18th September 1849 (age not stated), with Agnes Aitchison, his wife, and their three children, William Sturgeon, flesher, died 14th October 1846, aged 70, with Mary Irving, his spouse; also his sister Mary, and her husband James Dickson, baker, died 15th January 1850, aged 44; Robert Hannah, plasterer, died 1st June 1834, aged 67, with Janet Mitchel, his spouse; William Crosbie, cellarman, died at Wallgreen, 31st December 1856, aged 74, with Janet Johnston, his spouse; and Peter King, hairdresser, died 18th October 1852, aged 60, with Jane Coupland, his wife, and their two sons, John who died at 25, and George at 30: all these lie in this section—the headstone over the last-named family shewing that they were Roman Catholics by the words engraved upon it, "Requiescat in pace."

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* *History of Dumfries*, second edition, p 308.

Here also lie interred dealers in wares of divers kinds, the first we notice being Robert Paterson, draper, who died 6th January 1837, aged 48, with Agnes Rodick, his wife, a son

John who died at sea, aged 19, a daughter Elizabeth, who died when a year older, a second son Charles, a writer, who was possessed of superior attainments, and died 2d May 1849, at the early age of 29, and a third son, Robert, also a writer, who died 3d January 1859, age not mentioned. The chief grocery concern in St Michael's Street was long conducted by Joseph Parkins at the Pent-house End, where he died 19th August 1861, at the age of 77; he being pent up here in the narrow house with Isabella Scott, his spouse, the tombstone telling of another distant grave occupied by his son Robert Scott, who died in Whampoa, China, at the age of 30. Further west lies one who neighboured Mr. Parkins for several years in the same line, James M'Robert, long a devoted office-bearer of the Congregational Church, died 21st May 1845, aged 48, with his wife Eleanor Lindsay, and Agnes, their infant daughter: "In life he loved Christ's cause, now he sleeps in Jesus." John Jamieson, a dealer in the Chinese herb, whose praise has been sung by Cowper, and of which Waller says,

> "The Muse's friend, tea does our fancy aid
> Repress those vapours which the head invade,"

is commemorated also by an adjoining stone, from which we learn that he died 27th January 1850, aged 68: his wife, Jane Scott, a son and two granddaughters, who died in infancy, and their daughter-in-law, Elizabeth Forrest, wife of the late John Jamieson, draper, and afterwards agent of the Scottish Colportage Society, are also named in the inscription. George Hume, a dealer in tea services and crockery ware of all kinds, lies "turned to clay," beside a stone erected by his wife soon after his death from cholera 2d October 1832, she surviving him till 1848; her own name and that of an adopted daughter, Mary Ann Wilson who died at 20, appearing in the inscription. Two traffickers in a more potent liquor than "the cup which cheers but not inebriates," are buried near by, one of them, Thomas Wells, innkeeper, died 27th October 1843, aged 64, with Janet Brown, his spouse, and Isabella, her sister, died at 61; the other, John Benson, an Englishman, whose hostlery, the Golden Bull, was long a favourite place of entertainment: he died 27th June 1827, aged 48; his wife, Isabella Kendal, their son John, lost in the Nith 30th December 1822, at the age of 11, and their other son James, who experienced a similar fate at the age of 16, by the wreck of the barque Swallow when on a voyage to Valparaiso, are also named in the inscription—the latter sad catastrophe causing, we are told, "much anguish and sorrow to his afflicted relatives."

Captain William Edgar, a skilful mariner who died on *terra firma*, finds a haven in this section of the Cemetery, life's voyage terminating 27th February 1874, when he had passed his 78th year, his wife, Jean Moffat, and six infant children resting by his side; John Gaffie, seaman, died 13th March 1824, aged 47, with his spouse Jean and sister Margaret, and a relative, Richard Bell, carter, died 9th March 1866, aged 47; also another mariner, William Coupland, died 25th October 1870, aged 66; and yet another, James Black, died 5th March 1842, aged 35. A second James Black is named on a stone lying further westward: he was a sergeant in the Royal Artillery, died 30th May 1837, when threescore, his brother Thomas, who belonged to the same branch of the service, being also mentioned in the inscription, as having died 14th May 1834, aged 47.

Sundry cultivators of the soil lie here mouldering within its breast: Robert Clark, Calside, died 8th November 1816, aged 67; Robert Wright, Gateside of Gastown, died 18th April 1855, aged 74, with Janet Cowan his spouse, and their sons, David, grain-dealer, died 9th December 1868, aged 60, and John, died in the same month, two years older; James Robertson, who tilled the lands of Byersteads, and died at Georgetown, 26th April 1823, aged 73, James, his grandchild, son of George Robertson, and John Moffat, painter, son-in-law of Mr. Robertson, died 22d November 1860; John Fergusson, Doctorswell, died 4th February 1820, aged 75, with Christina Niven his wife, and two grandchildren; John Cunningham, gardener, died 11th January 1827, aged 66, with Agnes Hawthorne, his spouse; James Bowman, also a gardener, died 13th February 1828, aged 77, with Jean Boyse, his spouse.

Proceeding from west to east we next notice the altar-stones in the section ; the first of them appearing within a railed compartment in memory of the Rev. James Kirkpatrick, died 6th March 1822, aged 76, and his spouse Eleanor, "formerly of Whitehaven." Others commemorate Ann M'Caa, wife of Edward Hyslop, printer, died 25th May 1814, aged 27, with their children, Anna died at 14, and Thomas in infancy ; Edward M'Kenzie, farmer, Rockhallhead, died 30th September 1814, aged 64, with Marion Crichton his spouse ; Robert Reid, writer, born at Glasgow, died 9th January 1820, aged 33 ; Charles Robb, cabinet-maker, died 9th January 1845, aged 53, with his offspring, Margaret, who died at 28, and four others in childhood ; Mary Howson, wife of our oldest working cabinet-maker, Robert M'Innes, she died 10th January 1875, aged 73, also two of their daughters—Mary, a child of 5 years, and Ann, wife of David Graham, merchant, her death occurring 10th October 1861, at the age of 40 ; John Moodie, gardener, Maxwelltown, died 16th June, aged 75, with his wife Ann Paget, their daughter-in-law Jane Muir, spouse of James Moodie, clogmaker, who died at 36, and an infant son of the latter ; Benjamin Rae, joiner, died 1st April 1789, aged 49, with Margaret Forsyth his spouse, and their sons, John, a joiner, who died at 48, David at 42, and Charles at 41 ; James Moffat, mason, died 28th October 1824, aged 62, with Isabella Malcolm his spouse ; a very young married woman, Jean Harrison, spouse of Alexander Crawford, with their two infant children, her death occurring 20th May 1818, when she was just 18 ; Peter Findlater, saddler, died 8th February 1826, aged 54, with his spouse Sarah Lancaster (who belonged to a family long connected with the same trade in Dumfries), their son John, who died at 15, their daughter Margaret at 23, the latter having been also the wife of a saddler, Roger Murray ; James Irving, coach-driver, died 8th January 1831, aged 86, with Janet M'Vittie his spouse, and their children, James, who died in Portugal at 31, David at 20, and three cut off in infancy.

A merchant of good repute, James Hogg, draper, is buried in this section, his death taking place on 14th January 1833, when he was 65 : the names of his wife, Annie Stewart, and four of their children are inscribed on the stone : William an infant, Elizabeth died at 7, Margaret at 28, and John in New York at 33 ; also, the name of a grandchild, Elizabeth, daughter of William S. Hogg, who carries on his father's business. David Crosbie, grocer, another merchant of the same high stamp, lies not far off, his death occurring 14th February 1845, when he was 59 ; his wife Mary Nixon, their offspring, Robert died at 22, William at 29, and Elizabeth, wife of Hugh H. Gibson, died in Liverpool at 30, with other three younger children are named on the monument ; also, Elizabeth Bowman, Mrs. Crosbie's mother, who died at 60.

The memory of a worthy bookseller, John Johnston, is recalled by a stone bearing the name of his wife, Mary Fead, died 4th May 1816, aged 32. On another we observe the name of John, eldest son of John Anderson, bookseller, "a youth of great promise," who died in the 17th year of his age ; also, the name of his sister, Elizabeth, who died at 10. John Anderson, bookseller, had such a close connection with St. Mary's as one of its chief originators and supporters that by the desire of his minister and brother managers he was buried in the cemetery of that church, the spot being indicated by a handsome edifice, bearing the subjoined inscription :

> "In memory of John Anderson, stationer, Dumfries, who died 16th November, 1858, aged sixty-six years. This monument is erected by the congregation of St Mary's Church and other friends, as a tribute of respect for his zeal and energy in behalf of the Church of Scotland, and his special services in the eldership and management of St Mary's."

Mr. Anderson was a man of great intelligence, business enterprise, and private worth. His circulating library, in the romances of which we used to revel when a boy, was the greatest of its day in the district. Besides the children above named born to him by his wife, Agnes Richardson, a venerable lady who still survives, there are living, two daughters and four sons—Wellwood, who carries on his father's business; William, bookseller at Newton-Stewart; Robert, the well-known Glasgow printer; and James, knighted by her Majesty for the share taken by him as Captain of the Great Eastern in laying the Atlantic Telegraph Cable, 1866. David, another son, led an adventurous military life abroad, and died in Calcutta at middle age.

Coming to other altar-stones in this section, we read on one of them of two brothers, William and Andrew Montgomery by name, who carried on an extensive business as bakers, and seem to have been brothers indeed, the inscription telling us that

> "As a benefactor and friend, he [Andrew] was tender, affectionate, and honourable in all his transactions through life. These two brothers were remarkable for their attachment to each other. They were true to friendship, and their whole conduct was marked with strict integrity, and they lived respected and died regretted."

William died 20th December 1819, aged 40; Andrew following him to the land unseen 6th January, nine years afterwards, aged 45. On the same monument and a neighbouring headstone are named the wife of the latter, Mary Murphy, and their children—Agnes, an infant; Andrew, who died at 8; George, at 28; and Mary, at 40.

Another notable bread manufacturer lies not far off, James Corson, who was also chief magistrate in 1831-2-3. It was during his burghal reign that the first dreadful cholera visitation was experienced in Dumfries, which taxed so much the energies of our public men; and Provost Corson, we believe, proved himself to be competent for the crisis. He died 28th September 1836, at the early age of 44. The table tombstone raised above his remains commemorates also his youthful children, with reference to whom the following verse is inscribed:

"The prize is gained, the conflict's o'er,
  To sin unknown, from sorrow free;
Let not affection's tears deplore
  The child of immortality."

A respected octogenarian, John Milligan, at one time farmer in Dunnance, parish of Balmaghie, lies within a railed compartment, together with Elizabeth Chalmers, his spouse, and several of their relatives. He died 31st August 1819, aged 79.

One of his sons, Robert, who died in 1861, was Mayor of Bradford and Member of Parliament for that town; another, William, long a prosperous manufacturer in Dumfries, is spending his closing years, respected by every one, at his seat of Westpark, Maxwelltown: among the names upon the tombstone are those of three children of the latter, John, an infant; Jessie, died at 18; Elizabeth, at 19, by his wife, Jean, sister of John Berwick, draper, the inscription closing thus:

"Also the above Jean Berwick Milligan, who died in the hope of the Gospel on Sept. 20 1865, in the 73d year of her age. She was an affectionate and devoted mother to her family."

Facing the footpath on the west rises a graceful upright slab, bearing upon it the name of Alexander Young of Rosefield, long Procurator-Fiscal for Dumfriesshire—a shrewd, sagacious lawyer of the old school, who discharged his onerous official duties with mingled zeal and moderation. In examining witnesses he was wont to display much pawkie humour and penetration, the racy Scotch dialect in which his questions were usually put rendering them all the more incisive. He was father of Lord Young, long one of the ablest members of the Bar, and greatly distinguished as a statesman when representing the Wigtown Burghs, and when officiating as Lord Advocate: much of the keen insight, ready wit, and sagacity for which the father was remarkable in a more limited sphere, seems to have been inherited by his accomplished son. Mr. Young died 26th June 1863, aged 72. Seven of his children lie interred beside him, all of whom died very young, except Lilias, who lived to be 22.

In a line with the foregoing stand three neat, plain monuments, commemorating members of families closely related to each other: John Bain, cabinetmaker, died 4th December 1875, with his wife, Jane Shanks. In the newspaper notice of his death it is stated "that Mr. Bain was one of the oldest craftsmen of Dumfries who was trained in the strict days of trade guilds, and who for nearly fifty years, in the service, first of Messrs Gregan & Creighton, and latterly in that of Mr. William Gregan, retained the confidence of his employers, and the respect of his fellow-workmen. He had reached the patriarchal age of 84 ; and up till a few days ago he was able to take his position at the bench and execute cabinet-work which younger men might have been proud of." Walter Shanks, shoemaker, died 23d April 1843 (age not stated), with Agnes Cunningham, his wife, and John, their son ; Robert Shanks, a house-painter of more than ordinary taste and skill, died 16th December 1869, aged 67, with his offspring, Agnes, died at 26; Janet, at 17 ; and John in childhood ; Elizabeth Shanks, wife of James M'Lellan, shoemaker (one of the few old freemen of that trade that are still to the fore), died 20th November 1843, aged 46, with seven of their offspring, including Thomas, unfortunately killed in a moment by "the rush of a brow" at the age of 9, and James, who also died "instantaneously" while travelling from Lockerbie to Dumfries : the name of James M'Lellan's second wife, Isabella Knowles, also appears in the inscription, she died 11th April 1864, aged 68.

Andrew Anderson, a much respected draper of the Burgh, is borne in remembrance by a stately monument : he died 30th December 1865, aged 72 ; the inscription includes Mary M'Intyre, his wife, their children, James and Jane, both of whom died at 25 ; on the plinth are named Marion M'Intyre, died 10th December 1839, aged 46, and Sarah Rae, a woman of superior attainments and extensive information, who died 21st July 1844, aged 70.

Thomas Watson, bred a cabinetmaker, for some time an ironmonger, and a man of great intelligence, is named on a neat monument. He spent many years abroad, and on returning retired to Lochmaben, where he died 12th January 1872, aged 72 ; his wife, Mary Ann Elton ; her mother, Margaret Thomson, and two of their young children are also specified in the inscription.

A stately monument erected by Hugh Bryden, merchant, Liverpool, "in pious remembrance of his parents"—William Bryden, hay dealer, died 14th December 1856, aged 82, and Ann Stitt, his wife—commemorates himself also, and his brother James, surgeon, both dying at the age of 34 : one of their surviving brothers is the Rev. Mark J. Bryden, parish minister of Kirkcaldy.

James Beck, one of the carter class already noticed, died 12th May 1822, aged 52 ; his spouse, Sophia Bell ; and their children are commemorated on a neat monument, as follows : Thomas, who died when 14 ; William, at Quebec, when 29 ; Katherine, wife of William M'Kill, farmer in Knocksting, at 21 ; and John, who carried on an extensive business as a slater, died 30th November 1857, at 42.

A worthy octogenarian, Edward Roxburgh, is named on a handsome neighbouring monument. He wrought for many years as a master mason on the English side of the Border, and on returning to his native town, Dumfries, he continued the building trade on an extensive scale. He also commenced business as a bacon-curer, in what has since been called the Bacon-ham Close, prosecuting it with such success as to gain for his hams a great demand and a widely-spread reputation. He died 11th October 1846, aged 81. Jean Waistell, his wife, is also named in the inscription ; together with his son-in-law, William M'Quhae, mason (father of the respected Session-clerk of St. Michael's), died 24th November 1860, aged 69. An adjoining headstone rises in memory of John, infant son of James Richardson (whose father was John Richardson, the well-known sheriff-officer) and Catherine Roxburgh.

A stately edifice commemorates James Brand, merchant, died 4th June 1840, aged 59 ; Jean M'Queen, his wife ; and their offspring—Robert, died in childhood, James, aged 10 years, Elizabeth when 18, John, a merchant, at Demerara, when 29, and Henry at Berbice, when 35. Another son, James, who survives, occupies a leading position among the American Scotsmen of New York : he has been for several years Vice-President of the St. Andrew's Society in that city.

In a neatly-kept plot lie John Dunn, timber-merchant, highly respected in all the relations of life, who died 8th December 1827, aged 46 ; also his wife Agnes Thomson, three of their youthful progeny, and their daughter, Helen Thomson Dunn, wife of our worthy townsman, Mr. Robert

Armstrong, wine-merchant; a handsome monument rising in the compartment to commemorate Mrs. Armstrong, died 13th July 1868, aged 51, and their son Christopher, aged 27.

William Halliday, merchant, Rosebank, died 2d October 1822, aged 65, his wife, Jane Williamson, her sister Marion, and his son William, writer, also of Rosebank, died 2d October 1858, aged 61, are commemorated, with several relatives, by a structure which, though rather too heavy in the entablature, is massive and imposing: the other names in the inscription are those of Robert Halliday, surgeon, died at 20, Margaret died at the same age, and Jessie at 66, the latter the wife of Major John Johnstone, Queen's Royal Regiment of Foot, and all three the offspring of William Halliday, senior.

About forty-five years ago, an old building in High Street, that was long occupied as a Council Chamber (chief scene of the famous Pyet and Crow conflict) was turned into "The Rainbow Tavern," by William Kerr, whose monument we have now reached. The ingenious "apparatus" used by the worthy host for "conjuring up spirits from the vasty deep" of his cellars, two storeys below, was deemed worthy of special notice by Mr. M'Diarmid in his *Picture of Dumfries*, the statement being added that "The premises are roomy; and in the ancient seat of justice, groups of friends, over a pipe and can, discuss the merits of magistrates themselves." Mr. Kerr occupies now but a very little chamber: he died at Liverpool, 13th March 1865, after a lengthened lease of life, extending to 85 years. Mary Taylor, his first wife, died at 35; James, their son, a surgeon, died at 21; six other children, who died young; and Ann Kerr, his second wife, died at 70, are also named upon the monument.

A very handsome monument of red sandstone, with white marble tablet, rises in memory of James Watson, "late publisher of the *Dumfries Standard*," an excellent printer and amiable man, died 30th January 1849, aged only 34; and of his wife, Agnes Creighton Gibson. On the plinth appears the following inscription: "This stone is erected by a loving, devoted, and affectionate son." The name of Mr. Watson's brother, Thomas, who followed the same occupation, and died 22d July 1848, aged 35, is carved on a smaller stone within the same compartment. Both were from Edinburgh, whence supplies of printers used to be drawn for Dumfries, but now the home offices can furnish all that are required. On another small headstone, erected by John Gibson, cabinetmaker (father of ~~Mrs.~~ James Watson), appears the name of Hugh Hope, clockmaker, who died 3d September 1828, at the venerable age of 83, and of his wife Janet Anderson; and facing these stands the monument of William B. Denniston, who was the son-in-law of Mr. Hope.

A gallant Highland soldier, Donald M'Intosh, Lieutenant Quarter-Master of the old Dumfriesshire Militia, died 20th April 1821, aged 47, is quartered near by in virtue of no voluntary billet, together with Jean Milligan, his spouse; Ensign Andrew Donald, their son, died at 33; Margaret, their daughter, relict of Lieutenant John Henderson of the 49th Regiment, died 11th October 1849, and Jane, another daughter, wife of James Shaw, long a respected residenter of Dumfries, but now located at Stroud. Mrs. Shaw, who was celebrated as a professional musician, officiated for many years as organist of the Episcopal Church, Dumfries, and numerous lady pianists of the Burgh are indebted to her for their acquirements in the tuneful art; she died at the age of 70, 19th March 1874.

Overlooking a number of ordinary tombstones, there shoots up one of pure white marble, which challenges admiration on account of its graceful proportions and beautiful carved work. It is cruciform peaked at the top, with diagonal bands clasping the lower shaft, bearing the cheering words: "I will not leave you comfortless, I will come to you;" and with a dove (the bird of hope) cut upon the plinth, below a small cavity, over which we see the words "Alta Petit." This fine memorial cross is in memory of John Stott of Netherwood, died 2d August 1866, aged 45. It rises above an evergreen parterre, kept so neatly as to give it increased effect. Mr. Stott's parents, William Stott, merchant, died 20th August, 1823, aged 38, and Mary Sloan, who died on the fourth day afterwards, are commemorated within the enclosure; also, Robert Stott, residenter in Dumfries, died 3d March 1821, aged 42; and on a table-stone outside we find the name of Janet Stott, spouse of Samuel Inman, merchant, the latter of whom died of cholera in 1832, aged about 54, together with the names of their four children: Isabella, Mary, Jane, and Samuel, whose ages are not given. Mrs. Inman, died 1st December 1814, aged 42. "She was," it is stated, "a loving wife, an affectionate mother, and a faithful friend."

At a time when there were not more than two or three apothecary's shops in the Burgh, the chief trade in drugs was carried on by James Fraser, surgeon, died 11th February 1841, aged 56: his memory is preserved by a neat monument, bearing also the names of his wife, Eliza Hoyle, and seven of their children, no fewer than four of whom died abroad, at ages not specified—Robert in Demerara, 1837; Sarah, wife of William M'Dowall, in Jamaica, 1847; William, a physician, at Spanish Town, Jamaica, 1863; Isabella, wife of "A. H. Hall, Esquire, 2d W. I. Regiment," died off Cape Palmas, Western Africa, in 1864; another daughter, Margaret, wife of "D. J. Thomson, S.S.C.," died nearer home, at Edinburgh, in 1847; the others dying in early childhood.

A stately monument of Grecian design tells also of adventurous "foreign travel" pursued and of dangers on the deep incurred by members of another family, that of William Bell, turner, died 10th October 1836, aged 57, and Agnes Paterson, his spouse: Andrew, drowned off Cape Clear when sailing from Calcutta for the home he never saw again, 10th December 1830; James, fatally struck down by fever, on board the Jumna, when in the Bay of Bengal, 22d November 1833—the age of each having been only 20; Jessie Bell, wife of Robert Wallace, painter, Glasgow, died at 31; Captain John Bell, an intelligent officer, died in London 21st September 1857, aged 36, but "here interred," and two young children, complete the obituary list. The monument bears to have been erected by William, Solicitor Supreme Courts, eldest son of William Bell, senior.

Two respectable men, father and son, connected with the bread-stuff trade, are borne in remembrance by a handsome edifice: James Chalmers, baker, who died at Cluden Mills, 27th November 1848, aged 72; "Honest and upright were his transactions through life, and at death regretted;" William, his son, who died at West Cluden, 29th August 1872, aged 57: "He was generous in all his actions, pure in principle, and kind without ostentation." When they died, the expressive scriptural figure would be literally realised, "The sound of the grinding is low, because man goeth to his long home, and the mourners go about the streets." Of Mary Hannah, spouse of Mr. Chalmers, senior, also named in the inscription, it is said that "she was an affectionate wife and a loving mother;" also Agnes, their daughter, who died at 12, and a son cut off in infancy.

A neat little stone, bearing upon it carved representations of the mallet, chisel, and other tools of the mason's trade, rises to commemorate one of its members, James Beattie, died 19th November 1854, aged 72; Elizabeth Cunningham, his wife; and Jane, his sister, wife of George Irving, died at Greenbrae, 16th October 1865, aged 88.

The next stone bears the name of Robert M'Adam, long the leading watchmaker in Dumfries: he died 24th December 1845, aged 57; and was succeeded by his son of the same name, who has also gone to the land where no time-reckonings are kept. Ellen Telford, wife of the former; their children, Jessie, who died at 22, Sophia at 28, Ellen at 33, and two infants, are also mentioned in the inscription. We have heard the younger Mr. M'Adam state that when his father commenced business not more than a dozen gold watches were worn in the Burgh; now, after the lapse of sixty years, at least five hundred of the inhabitants indulge in the luxury.

Of one whose business it was to "go down to the sea in ships" we are reminded by a handsome structure next arrived at, bearing as it does the name of Daniel Cassady, who owned as well as commanded the brig Thetis, which hailed from Dumfries. Death overtook the worthy mariner when on a return voyage from Quebec, 18th November 1862, at the age of 51. His son Robert, who died at 33, is also borne in remembrance by the monument.

About sixty-six years ago the Dumfries Independents or Congregationalists, then a small body worshipping in Irish Street, obtained for minister the Rev. John Dunn previously of Berwick-on-Tweed, under whose faithful pastorate their numbers greatly increased. He was possessed of something like apostolic fervour—"a burning and a shining light"—realising in many respects Cowper's famous picture of "a preacher such as Paul:"

"In language plain,
And plain in manner; decent, solemn, chaste,
And natural in gesture; much impressed
Himself as conscious of his awful charge,
And anxious mainly that the flock he feeds
May feel it too; affectionate in look,
And tender in address, as well becomes
A messenger of grace to guilty men."

During his ten years' sojourn Mr. Dunn took an active part in various philanthropic movements in the Burgh and neighbourhood. His memory is still fondly cherished by the few remaining inhabitants who knew from observation what he was and what he did. By a neat monument in this part of St. Michael's he is also kept in remembrance, together with his wedded partner, the inscription being as follows:

"Erected to the memory of Mr. John Dunn, pastor of the Independent Church, Dumfries, who suddenly, on the 29th of February 1820, came to the close of a life eminently devoted to the work of faith and labour of love, aged 44 years. 'Be ye also ready, for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of Man cometh.' Of Martha Maxwell, relict of the above designed Mr. Dunn, who died at Dalbeattie upon the 31st of December 1839, aged 80 years, her surviving relatives bear this testimony, that as her life was eminently distinguished by a practical subjection to the Gospel of Christ, so was her death remarkable for the gracious vouchsafement of promised peace."

On the pediment of the stone is carved a sickle thrust through a shock of corn, to symbolise the doings of the "Reaper whose name is Death."

CHAPTER XV.

FRONTING THE FIRST INNER SECTION.

IN the compartments which fringe the north side of the footpath are laid men who occupied a prominent position as merchants, mechanics, or manufacturers; also a doctor, a soldier, two divines, and several members of other professions. Proceeding westward, we pass first a tombstone bearing the name of a much respected Excise officer, Collector Robert M'Cracken, died 18th December 1819, aged 64, "erected in grateful remembrance of departed worth."

The next monument is eloquent in praise of one who was for nearly a quarter of a century minister of St. Michael's, the Rev. Dr. Scot, an eloquent preacher of the Blair school, which in his day dominated over the pulpit theology of the National Church. He was the trusted friend not less than the devoted pastor of his people, and was much esteemed by the general community, in token of which a fine marble bust of Dr. Scot, "erected by public subscription," was placed in the porch of the church soon after his demise. In Holland, where he laboured when a young man, his life was an eventful one, compared with "the even tenor" of his later years. He exposed himself to considerable peril in doing what he could to protect the interests of his flock when attacked by French invaders, and during the turbulence that ensued he lost his books and other valuables, some of which, however, if not all, he eventually recovered. Reference is made to this exciting episode in the epitaph, which we subjoin:

"Sacred to the memory of the Rev. Alexander Scot, D.D., who died June 26th 1830, in the 82d year of his age and 50th of his ministry. Ordained minister of the Presbyterian Church at Rotterdam in 1780, he continued there till the French invaded Holland in 1795, when he returned to his native country, and in the course of that year was admitted to the pastoral charge of the New Church of Dumfries, from which he was translated to St. Michael's in 1806. The rational yet affectionate piety which pervaded his devotional compositions, the substantial excellence of his pastoral instructions, adapted both to enlighten the understanding and impress the heart, not only commanded the admiration and esteem of his flock, but rendered him the object of their love. Through the blessing of heaven on the discretion with which he managed his affairs, he secured the means of being charitable, and by liberally yet unostentatiously aiding the friendless and unfortunate, he evinced a mind deeply imbued with the principles of true Christian benevolence. Discharging with ability and faithfulness every professional duty, and exemplifying the modesty, purity, and integrity required by the Gospel, he proved himself a good minister of Jesus Christ."

On the plinth of the stone is inscribed the name of Dr. Scot's spouse, Janet Kirkpatrick, a daughter of W. Kirkpatrick of Conheath, and an aunt of the Countess of Montijo.

An adjoining stone bears the name of George Haugh, who died 28th January 1838, aged 80. A neat, though an unpretentious structure, it ought not to be passed hurriedly by, seeing that Mr. Haugh lived right above the lodging in the "Wee Vennel" which Burns occupied when he first came to Dumfries, and was, as Robert Chambers tells us, treated by the poet "on a familiar footing, as a neighbour." The deceased was besides a douce, honest blacksmith, toiling hard, like the model one celebrated by Longfellow, that he might be able to "look the whole world in the face, for he feared not any man." The tombstone bears the name of his wife Agnes Copland; of their son, James Haugh, also a respectable and intelligent hammerman, who died March 1862, aged 68; also of their daughters Agnes, an infant, David Blair, died when 25, Margaret, wife of J. A. Pearce, ironfounder, died at Carlisle, aged 62, and Jane Gracie, aged 66. A headstone rises in the same compartment to commemorate three youthful children, Edwin and Charles Pearce, and Samuel, son of B. W. Pearce, Belfast.

To the memory of Hugh M'Naught, spirit merchant; his wife, Jean Hamilton; and their son William, who died at sea, aged 31, and two infant children, a neat monument is devoted. Mr. M'Naught died when threescore, 28th November 1844.

The next stone rises in memory of Frances Every, second wife of Major William Miller, whose father was the celebrated Patrick Miller of Dalswinton. She was the youngest daughter of Sir Edward Every, baronet, of Eggington Hall, Derbyshire, and died 16th August 1824. Major Miller's first partner was, as we have already seen, "the lovely young Jessie" Staig of Burns' verse. He was buried in Greyfriars' Churchyard, Edinburgh.

In the early part of the current century, when the heads of men were made subject to the hands of the barber with his hair-powders, pig-tails, wigs, and perfumery, a prosperous trade in that line was carried on by William Smith, who occupies a place in the next compartment. As his premises were in English Street, opposite the King's Arms Hotel, it was conveniently situated for the numerous strangers who put up at that famous establishment; and to not a few men of note among them Mr. Smith's shop was a familiar howf or place of call, they being led to frequent it as much by his genial gentlemanly manners as for business purposes. At that time also the Theatre in Shakspeare Street drew under its attractive influence the gentry of the neighbourhood, and the balls and the assemblies of the Burgh were more numerous than in our own day; which circumstances tended greatly to increase the trade of the fashionable hairdresser and perfumer. Mr. Smith numbered several theatrical stars among his friends, especially the brightest of them all, Edmund Kean. When quite a youth, he frequently saw Robert Burns, of whose appearance he retained a distinct recollection. He has told us that the poet's eyes were something wonderful —piercing and lustrous, like orbs of fire; the only eyes he ever saw at all comparable with them being those of Kean. Mr. Smith was for a while a member of the Town Council and Treasurer of the Burgh. When he died on the 26th February 1866, at the patriarchal age of 84, a link was broken away between the past and present centuries; and many interesting reminiscences of old times which he had stored up in his memory were irrecoverably lost. The stone also bears the name of his wife, Mary Ferguson.

By means of a truly magnificent structure, John Bryden, wine merchant, and his spouse, Elizabeth Caird, are likely to be long held in remembrance. His death at the age of 46 caused a very solemn sensation, not simply because the Burgh was thereby deprived of a well known and worthy inhabitant, but because he was the first middle-class man who suffered fatally from the cholera epidemic of 1832. On the 1st of October that year, fifty-six new cases and twenty-three deaths, of which his was one, were reported. Previously to that date, it was the poorer classes only who had suffered; but as the *Courier* remarked at the time, the removal of Mr. Bryden by the fell destroyer shewed that no rank of life was safe from its ravages, he being in his meridian prime, "moving in highly respectable society, and placed throughout life in the most comfortable circumstances." The death-roll upon the tablet includes six of his progeny—an infant daughter, Jemima Janet, who died at 7, Elizabeth at 24, John Hannah at 26, Robert at 27, Mary Caird, wife of George W. Reoch, bank-agent, Leith, at 42, and Mary, his sister, whose age is not recorded.

On a tablet further west appear the names of John Threshie, surgeon, his wife Margaret Foreman, and their youthful child John: Mr. Threshie died at Minniehive 11th May 1857, aged 65.

The Rev. Andrew Fyfe, long a zealous minister of the Relief body, receives commemoration from an adjoining monument. In his later years he, with most of his hearers, joined the Established Church; but, disappointed in his desire to carry with them their former place of worship (now used as a wool store by the Messrs Carlyle of Waterbeck), St. Mary's Church was built for them, and he preached in it as an assistant for several years. He died 12th April 1854, aged 69. His wife, Margaret Corson, and his father, William Fyfe, died 14th April 1824 (age not stated), are also commemorated by the monument; together with Jane, his daughter, died at Birkenhead when 34, and William, an infant grandson.

Of Bailie Harkness an account was given in a preceding chapter. His name again appears in a compartment where lie his father-in-law, William Wallace, writer, died 23d August 1818, aged 46, his mother-in-law Mary M'Vitie, with their offspring, an infant son, Grace died at 9, Thomas at 16, in Kingston, Jamaica, John at 33, in Sydney, New South

Wales, William at 44 in the same place, and Francis Lascelles at 41, in the district of New South Wales named after the Nithsdale of their fathers, rendered by distance doubly dear to the family. Beside the monument erected over the parent pair, there are two of smaller size, one of which bears the following inscription :

> "Sacred to the memory of Mary Wallace, wife of Thomas Harkness, Writer and Commissary Clerk of Dumfriesshire, who died at London, 26th May 1860, aged 59 years ; also of the Honble. Hugh Wallace of Nithsdale, Braidwood, New South Wales, a member of the Legislative Council of that Colony, who died at Braidwood, from the effects of an accident, on 6th June 1868, aged 58 years. He was greatly beloved and respected in the Colony, where he had been resident 28 years."

Mr. Wallace, who attained this lofty position at the Antipodes and wore his honours so creditably, will be remembered by many of our townsmen, when, prior to 1840, he occupied premises as a china merchant near the foot of High Street.

The second of the two smaller stones preserves the names of Mary and Francis, children of Hugh Wallace, both of whom died at his mansion of Braidwood, the former when 4 and the latter when 6 years old.

Long before our chief manufacture—tweeds—was thought of, a thriving hosiery trade was carried on in Dumfries, by, among others, William Dinwiddie, who lived to a ripe old age, much respected by his fellow-townsmen. He was for several year an efficient member of the local parliament, and honoured with a bailieship. His tombstone, now arrived at, states that he died 25th November 1868, aged 84 ; and it commemorates also his wife, Janet Thorburn, their two sons, James, who died at 31, and John, a skilful artist, who died at 40. Another son, Robert, has long occupied an influential position among the merchants of New York.

When reading upon the next monument, a neat Ionic erection, the name of Robert Scott, senior, we think not alone of it as a memorial, but of the gigantic tweed mills which enrich and also ornament the town, and all of which are traceable to the business sagacity and enterprise of the worthy gentleman who lies here mouldering in the dust.

He started a hosiery establishment so far back as 1810, which is still flourishing; and thirty-six years afterwards, in conjunction with members of his family, including his eldest son, Robert Scott of Castledykes, who also lies buried here, he originated the great woollen manufacture of Dumfries, which, as now carried on in three factories under the able management of Walter Scott & Sons, employs about 1400 operatives, and produces some 2000 pieces of tweed cloth per month, or fully a million yards per annum. This colossal trade dwarfs in comparison our other industries, and but for it the Burgh would be poor indeed. We have heard the soaring stalk of the Nithsdale Mills spoken of as "the Scott monument;" and so long as our tweed manufacture with its palatial habitations keeps its place, giving bread to thousands, Robert Scott, senior, and his equally enterprising son, Robert, who died 8th November 1871, aged 58, will possess a prouder monument than any which mason could build or sculptor adorn. Mr. Scott, senior, lived to be 81 years, his death occurring 7th May 1861. His spouse, Jane Lindsay, and two children who died in infancy, are interred beside him.

Canopied over by a gorgeous monument, lies Robin, the little son of Mr. John L. Scott of Mollance, son of Mr. Robert Scott, senior, with whom he was long associated as an enterprising promoter of the tweed trade. This structure, exquisite in design and of splendid workmanship, is in the Gothic style—the architect having been Mr. William R. Corson of Manchester (son of Provost Corson, Dumfries), and the builder and sculptor our townsman Mr. Flint. Within the recess there is a carved representation of the raising of the widow's son; and the inscription below states that the structure is in memory of Robin Lindsay Scott, who died June 5th 1862, aged 12 years.

A little tablet on the wall is dedicated to John Hossack of Glengaber, and Buff Bay River, Jamaica, died 19th October 1815, aged 59. On numerous stones in St. Michael's besides this one we find the island of Jamaica associated with adventurous Dumfriesians, shewing the close connection that was long maintained between the Queen of the South and the Queen of the Antilles.

Blair, apostrophising "the great masters of the healing art," asks them ironically, What avail "their well-crammed magazines of health?" when they too, "the doughty keepers from the grave," get imprisoned therein, not less than their patients. We have been often reminded of this passage while meditating among the tombs of St. Michael's, as many of these rise over sons of Æsculapius, who were greatly distinguished for their professional attainments. Dr. John Laing, whose prison-house we now contemplate, was one of these—a worthy gentleman as well as a skilful physician: he died in 23d September 1832, aged 59. On the stone are engraved the names of his wife, Elizabeth Davidson; their children, Elizabeth, who died at 10, and William at 3; of his second wife, Christina Elizabeth Gib; and of John, his only son by the latter, who died at 22.

To the memory of James K. M'Diarmid, painter, Dumfries, a native of Edinburgh, the next stone is devoted. He was a tradesman of excellent taste, who did much to improve the style of house decoration, and also, by means of his extensive collection of steel engravings, to promote a relish for the fine arts among a generation that lived before good pictures ceased to be a luxury. He died 10th June 1845, aged 70. On the stone appear also the names of his wife, Catherine Moodie, and of two of their children. The name of a third, James, remains to be added: he died in 1873, aged about 59.

"In death not divided." An affecting tale is told, as follows, by the inscription on the next stone:

> "In memory of James Bain, writer, Dumfries, and Alexina Gibson, his wife, who fell victims to the scarlet fever in the prime of life, and within three days of each other: the one died on the 24th of June 1815, and the other on the 26th of June 1815; and they were here interred on the same day, and in the same grave. The high esteem in which they were held in life was only equalled by the general regret evinced at their death, and the singular circumstances attending it afford a most lasting and melancholy proof of the uncertain tenure of our earthly existence."

An obituary notice of Archibald Bain, a decent old clerk, who had engrossed more foolscap pages than any contemporary in Dumfries, has been added recently: he was brother of James Bain, also of John Bain, cabinetmaker, and died 4th February 1876, "at an advanced age."

During a period of thirty years, ending about 1828, the Mill Hole of Dumfries, humble though its designation is, was the seat of a most extensive establishment, whence were sent out sumptuous fabrics in the cabinet and upholstery line to all the country round. There was nothing like it, we believe, in Scotland, out of Edinburgh and Glasgow, at the time. The business was carried on under the once familiar name of Gregan & Creighton, and after drooping for a while, it was revived by our townsman, Mr. William Gregan, a son of the first named partner, and is still carried on by him to as great an extent as ever. The other member of the firm, James Creighton, lies buried in the neatly-kept compartment next arrived at, together with his wife Agnes (one of the Thorburns of Kelton, and sister of the Rev. William Thorburn, Troqueer); the following children and other relatives being also named on the memorial stones within: James Thorburn Creighton, an infant child; a second son of the same name, died at Liverpool, 9th June 1857; with his wife, Margaret Briley, died at Liverpool, 10th April 1862; a daughter, Elizabeth, died 17th September 1873; her husband, John Sloan, serjeant in 72d or Duke of Albany's Own Highlanders, died 23d February 1872; and a grandson, George, died at Edinburgh, 17th April 1842. Mr. Creighton was a man of great practical experience, business enterprise, and general intelligence; and having entered the Council, his municipal services were acknowledged by his being twice elevated to the magisterial bench. Bailie Creighton died 10th December 1848. No ages are specified on the monument.

With the name of Robert Watt as the respected head of a large ironmongery establishment, the Dumfries public have been long familiarised. On the grates, fenders, and other metallic furnishings of numerous mansions erected between 1820 and 1845, the name figures as a "household word," inscribed on a more durable material than the monument raised over his remains, and still bearing witness to the extensive character of his trade. Mr. Watt died 25th December 1846, aged 65. He was twice married, both wives, Grace Creighton and Mary M'Turk, with six children by the former, being named on one or other of the two memorial stones which appear in this compartment: three who died in infancy, William Henry, drowned at sea when 26, Joseph, died at Port Morant, Jamaica, when 25, and Philip, died in Jamaica when 33. The name of another worthy son, John, who continued his father's business for many years, and died in 1874, has not yet been added to the inscription.

Samuel Affleck, a respectable burgess who laboured industriously among hoops and staves, rests near by, together with an infant daughter: he died 18th February 1864, aged 64. A slab within the enclosure commemorates John Thomson, died at Ramsay Cottage, Maxwelltown, 8th January 1837, aged 67; his wife, Sarah Reid, and their little daughter Margaret, who, having predeceased them, is represented as addressing them thus:

"My parents dear, I pray forbear,
And do not grieve so much,
For our Saviour tells us little ones
His kingdom is of such."

In 1827-8-9 the Burgh was ruled over by Provost William M'Kie, whose name we read on an adjoining monument. He was an extensive manufacturer and commission agent, prosecuting a prosperous business for many years, and being, says the *Courier*, "remarkable during his whole career for punctuality, perseverance, and untiring industry. On retiring from trade, he devoted much of his time to the charities of the town," and evinced in other respects "great anxiety to alleviate distress, combined with an ardent zeal for the promotion of every judicious public improvement." Mr. M'Kie made an excellent chief-magistrate, discharging his official duties creditably to himself and so as to render his "reign" popular with the community. He died 30th May 1838, aged 66. The monument commemorates also James, his second son, bank-agent and solicitor, whose useful life was cut short on the 4th of February 1874. To the son, not less than to the father, the highest burghal rank would have been assigned by the inhabitants, through the Council, but Mr. James M'Kie repeatedly declined the proferred honour, content to use his talents and exercise his influence as a municipal commoner for the public weal. He took a great interest also in County affairs, and as a devoted member of the local Liberal party, he occupied a vanguard position on their side during the protracted struggle for the representation of Dumfriesshire in 1868-9. "As a man of business"—we quote again from the *Courier*—"Mr. M'Kie was much respected and trusted: in every transaction of life he was both just and sensitively honourable, and his sagacity, acquaintance with affairs, and never-failing desire to oblige where help was deserved, rendered him a safe counsellor and a valued friend." Mr. M'Kie died when he had reached the age of 53, at his beautiful mansion, Moat House, where his venerable mother, the sister of James Broom, resides with her daughter, and son, William, who was formerly a manufacturer at Hawick. Thomas M'Kie, the well-known advocate, is another member of the family.

For many years the chief, if not the only, dyeworks in Dumfries were carried on by Robert Armstrong and several of his sons, who, with his wife, Agnes Renwick, are laid in the last compartment of the row. Than the father of the family no more honourable or pious man was to be found among his local contemporaries. He was for a lengthened period an office-bearer in the Congregational Church, and for several years a magistrate of the Burgh. He died 29th May 1834 (age not given). It is stated on the memorial stone regarding his son James, who died at 22, that "To an amiable and manly disposition he happily added undeviating rectitude of conduct, and pious resignation to his Creator's will." Another son, Anthony, is mentioned as having died at 30; another, Christopher, at 32; and a daughter, Jane, at 48. A separate tablet is dedicated to a third son, William, died at 46; and his wife, Elizabeth Groome. Adam, a surviving son, carries on a large business as an ironmonger in Leeds.

CHAPTER XVI.

INTERIOR SECTIONS—NUMBER TWO.

EASTWARD of the footpath that runs from the south gable of the church direct south there is a large oblong space of ground, over which we now propose to travel. It is peopled by several leading merchants, numerous Tribunes of the Trades, and others. Even as a particular portion of St. Michael's Church (two-thirds of the gallery) was set apart for the Crafts when *quick*, so many of their leading men lie congregated when *dead* in this section of the Graveyard, which is within a few feet of the sacred fane. Facing the walk, at a little distance from each other, we see two handsome monuments in the Grecian style—one marking the spot where lies interred an enterprising merchant of the town, Christopher Armstrong, brother of Robert Armstrong, dyer (whose memorial stone has just been noticed); and the other raised over the remains of an influential tradesman, James Nibloe.

Mr. Armstrong was not only noteworthy as a business man, but as a useful public citizen, his character being summed up in the following notice, given by the *Courier* at the time of his death:—"Here, on the 11th curt., Mr. Christopher Armstrong. For a quarter of a century and more he devoted much of his time to public affairs; was an elder of the Church, treasurer to the Session [St. Michael's], and repeatedly held the office of Dean of Guild. A public almoner, his death has left a blank that cannot be supplied; and though ever prompt in relieving the deserving, he was at the same time wonderfully quick in detecting and tracing imposture through all its manifold doublings and windings. Publicly and privately, he conciliated esteem by his cheerful, social, obliging disposition; in his own family no man was more remarkable for the exercise of those virtues which render home the happiest spot on earth." Mr. Armstrong died on the 11th of May 1830, aged 53. He was twice married—first to Janet Harris, and next to Christian Clark, both of whose names appear with his own upon the monument. A slab in front commemorates his parents, Christopher Armstrong, dyer, and Mary Wright, the former of whom died 7th April 1812, aged 67.

From an immemorial period the sons of Crispin bulked largely among the craftsmen of the Burgh. When for mutual protection the separate incorporations bound themselves together by a seven-fold cord, the Shoemakers could make a more numerous muster than any of the other trades. About ninety years ago they formed a total of 236 masters, journeymen, and apprentices; the Squaremen following next with 220. Forty years since, James Nibloe was the leading man of the body; and the extensive business carried on by him is continued by his son, Mr. William Nibloe. By natural ability, and by position, the deceased had a claim to the convenership of the Incorporated Seven, which was readily conceded, and he made a very good Chief of the Trades. Convener Nibloe died 24th October 1841, aged 55. The stone commemorates also his wife, Mary Miller, and several of their children.

Three merchants, with members of their families or other relatives, are buried immediately behind the Armstrong monument, below altar-stones, on one of which we read of Andrew Kelly, died 19th August 1795, aged 59; Elizabeth Murray, his spouse; Robert Holder, died in Calcutta, 4th June 1857, aged 25, with his child daughter Elizabeth; John Murray, died at Bareness, Southwick, 25th December 1844, aged 62, with Janet Thorburn, his wife, and their son John, who died when 18.

The second commemorates Thomas Jamieson, died 20th September 1784, aged 68; Janet Dickson, his spouse, seven youthful children, their daughter Janet, and her husband, John Samson, mason, who long carried on business in company with Mr. Thomas M'Kaig. Not a few good hewers and builders were bred in their establishment; and they numbered among their apprentices one who achieved distinction in another line—Allan Cunningham. The Dumfries Academy and the Episcopal Chapel in Buccleuch Street, now occupied by the Wesleyans, were erected by Samson & M'Kaig, and at both of these buildings the future poet and novelist tried his "'prentice hand." Mrs. Samson, who long outlived her husband, was a lady of singular piety and worth. Both of them were devoted members of the Independent Church; and by a mutual disposition and deed of settlement executed by them in 1828, they generously devoted the sum of £400 for behoof of that body. Mr. Samson died 14th May 1832, aged 68. Two years afterwards his widow, availing herself of reserved powers, facilitated the operation of the above legacy by a new disposition, of a piece of ground at the corner of Irving Street, granted in consideration of £175; the remainder of the £400 to be applied by trustees for the erection of a chapel. Among the first trustees were the celebrated Dr. Ralph Wardlaw and the Rev. Robert Machray, the latter of whom was at that time minister of the congregation here. One of the provisions of the deed is that the chapel shall be granted "free of rent to the Independent Church in Dumfries so long as the members shall hold and profess the same sentiments of the doctrines and institutions of Christianity and of Church government as are held and professed by the churches in connection with the Congregational Union of Scotland; but in the event of a part of the members renouncing these sentiments in whole or in part, the trustees shall have power to grant the use of the chapel to the remaining part which continues in connection with the Congregational Union of Scotland." The chapel was subsequently built on the ground referred to, the members and others contributing to the cost. The Rev. Hugh Campbell is its present minister. Mrs. Samson died at Laurieknowe, Maxwelltown, 10th April 1847, aged 75.

During the first quarter of the current century Robert Neilson, whose monument is in a line with the foregoing, occupied a position second to none among the merchants of Dumfries. He died in 1831, aged 76. His wife Ann M'Whir lies buried beside him; she was the sister of James M'Whir, whose great services to the Burgh and Port we noticed in a preceding chapter. The stone also commemorates Mr. Neilson's daughter Jessie, and her husband, George Haining, merchant, the latter of whom died in Jamaica, 1828.

"Sown in corruption," to be "raised in incorruption," two worthy gardeners of Wellgreen, closely related to each other, lie with their wives side by side; the little headstones which mark the spot stating that John Dickson died 16th August 1852, aged 72; and David Crombie died 3d June 1811, aged 71; the wife of the former and the daughter of the latter bearing the name of Stewart Crombie. To the memory of David Crombie and his spouse Ann Taylor, the following poetical tribute is inscribed upon the stone:

"A father kind, a mother dear,
Two faithful friends, lie buried here;
Free from malice, void of pride,
So they lived and so they died."

Another gardener, Thomas Dalzell, died 6th October 1861, lies southward a little, with his spouse, Nicholas Kirkpatrick. On a flat slab in front of the headstones just mentioned appear the names of three young children, the issue of David Dickson, smith, Wellgreen. A table-stone and headstone adjoining commemorate other relatives, the first rising in memory of Adam Dickson, farmer, Moss-side, died 5th January 1781, aged 66, and Agnes Edgar, his spouse; the second bearing the following names and dates: George Dickson, cabinetmaker, died at Liverpool 14th December 1849, aged 72; his son, Captain Robert Dickson, died at the same town, 2d May 1854, aged 34; his young daughter Catherine; John Young, weaver, died 25th April 1813, aged 71, Malcolm Graham, his spouse, four children (ages not specified), and Janet Howat, youthful daughter of George Dickson, cabinetmaker. Other Dicksons are named on adjoining headstones: Thomas, ship-carpenter, who perished at sea 31st December 1828, aged 24; his son, John, coachmaker, died when 21, and his relict Helen Lowden, who was married again to John M'Caskie, and died 24th September 1858, aged 52; also several juvenile members of the family.

Near by we reach a row of five old table-stones, all worthy of special notice. The first, which has suffered considerably from the corroding influence of time, is in memory of Thomas Mouat, wig-maker, and of his wife, Mary Johnston. By the stone-cutter's aid, "the unlettered muse" gives them a nautical epitaph in the following terms:

> "Two lovers true for ten years space absented,
> By stormy sea's and wars yet liv'd contented.
> We met for eighteen years, and married were,
> God smil'd on us, our wind bleue always fair,
> We're ancor'd here, waiting our Master's call,
> Expecting with him, joys perpetuall."

Mr. Mouat died 8th November 1735, aged 54, his relict surviving him till 27th May 1772, when she died at three score and ten.

On the next stone we read of Jean Greg, the spouse of a second Thomas Mouat, died 30th July 1729; aged 50, and their daughter Elizabeth, spouse of William Reid, smith, died 16th March 1741, aged 29.

For saddlery there was not much demand in Dumfries before the Union. The horses used by our forefathers, whether for drawing ploughs, carrying wool-packs, or bearing freebooting raiders across the Border, would not, we fancy, be very daintily caparisoned; and even the "riding graith" used in the early part of the last century would be of a homespun character, if not extremely rude. We have as yet met with the name of no saddler in the literature of the Churchyard more remote than that of Robert Adamson, which appears on the next stone. The inscription upon it is somewhat defaced by time, but we find from it that he was a Deacon of the Hammermen, that his spouse Jean Armstrong died 24th August 1738, and their two sons, William and Robert, are buried below; together with Robert Roddan, joiner, died 26th September 1797, aged 38, and Margaret Johnston, his spouse.

The lettering of the next stone is still more antique: it tells us that "Here lyes Matthew Wightman merchant burges in Drumfries who departed this life January 8 1700 and of his age the 53d year." Also "Elizabeth Iruine his spouse who departed this life December 23 1702 and of her age 49." The name of their daughter Janet is added, the whole closing with a poetical tribute, which is so worn-out that with great difficulty we ascertained that it is in something like the following terms :

> "Sincerely pious, and most truely just,
> These happy thrie lyes sleiping in the dust,
> Whi'st their bright spirits 'mid the adoring crowd
> Salvatione to the Lamb do cry aloud :
> In Baca's vale of tears they darkly trode,
> While Zionward they travell'd, on the road,
> And won the crown that fadeth not away,
> And thus forgot the sorrows of the way."

A minister of the gospel, who laboured long in the vineyard, rests in the next layer. Very old-fashioned are the fading characters which strive to keep his memory green ; but if faithful in his stewardship, his name will never grow dim in the book of the recording angel. The inscription runs thus :

> "Here ly's the Revd Mr David Wightman minister of the gospel 46 years in the parishes of Tareggles and Applegarth who died upon the 6. Febriwary 1748. A severe application and search for truth distinguished his early years ; amiability modesty and condescension joined with distinguished talens [*sic.*] and [extensive] knowledge adorn'd his riper years."

The stone bears to have been erected by his relict, whose name, Marion Cannon, was afterwards added to the inscription, with the words "She lived much loved, and died much lamented." It may be safely assumed, we think, that the Rev. Mr. Wightman was the son of Matthew Wightman, who occupies the grave adjoining.

From Dr. Hew Scott's learned work, *Fasti Ecclesiæ Scoticanæ*, we gather the following particulars of the deceased: David Wightman, A.M., graduated at the University of Edinburgh, 17th May 1699, was called to Terregles in June 1702, and ordained on 23d September of that year. He demitted his charge on receiving a call to Applegarth, 27th February 1703 ; but the same was not sustained, "on account of the use of that illegal and oppressive word patron ;" so that a new one had to be appointed by the Presbytery, 5th March, under which he was admitted, 18th April. He was active in the settlement of Lochmaben in September 1723, which the Assembly next year declared to be null and void. He died 1st February 1748, aged about 67. He married

Marion, daughter of John Cannon of Formistoun. She died 11th October 1762. Mr. Wightman, it further appears, published a quarto volume, entitled "A vindication of Mr. John Taylor, minister of Wamphray," who had created a schism in that parish. The book was printed at Dumfries in 1718, doubtless by Robert Rae, the only typographer of which the Burgh or indeed the South of Scotland could at that period boast. With reference to the vitiating influence of the term "patron," as mentioned by Scott, we may state it was held in such bad repute that its use was disallowed in ministerial settlements from the Revolution down till the time when "Lang patronage wi' rod o' airn" was restored by the Act of Queen Anne.

Quainter than any of the stones in this quintuple row, rises one near by over a Deacon of the Squaremen and his spouse. The inscription, as it stands, might be entitled a study from the antique, of which, with the ordinary modern type at our disposal, we can convey but a very faint idea. It is to the following effect:

> "Here lyes Janet Mvrray spouse to Robert Newal Bvrges of Drumfries Vright vho departed this life upon the 6 day of November 1696. Here lyes Robert Neuall late Deacon of Wrights who departed this life the 30 day of March 1717 and of his age 58. Erected by George Pringel, 1717."

Below these words the monumental sculptor has carved a shield, and filled it in, not with the usual grim mementoes of mortality or with the sexton's arms, the spade and mattock, but with the emblems of the honest Deacon's own trade, a square, a pair of compasses, and a hatchet, though the latter, with its big truculent blade, resembles more the headsman's gory axe than the wood-cutting weapon of a peaceful mechanic.

On a more imposing altar-stone, a few paces eastward, we read the name of a man who, though he was neither deacon, convener, bailie, provost, nor yet dean of guild, gave law for a long while to the Council and the Crafts, and through them to the Burgh. This was Archibald Malcolm, who succeeded the Cunninghams, Corries, and others, in whom was vested the Town Clerkship—an office that was fully as influential in the pre-Reform period as it is at the present day. Many pages of his handwriting fill up the Council Books during the latter half of the eighteenth century. He was in office when the Jacobite rebels occupied Dumfries ; and when five years afterwards the Government granted the sum of £2828 5s 11d sterling to cover the money tribute and other exactions made by Prince Charles, Mr. Malcolm as Town Clerk distributed the amount among those who had been assessed or plundered, for which duty, of course, he would be paid by a liberal percentage. John Mayne gives him a prominent place at the Magistrates' Dinner, which followed the shooting for the Siller Gun, in 1777. Dr. Mutter having said grace,

> "The Town Clerk next, a fallow fine,
> Wha ne'er lo'ed water in his wine,
> Gart bring the great big gardevine,*
> And fill the glasses :
> Wi' thrice three cheers in bumpers syne
> The claret passes."

A prosperous, not less than a powerful man, he erected the fine mansion now owned and occupied by one of his successors in office, Mr. William Martin, the present worthy Town-Clerk, his request to the Council for leave to do so, dated 23d July 1753, setting forth "that he wished to remove several old thatched houses at the foot of Southgate-brae, of which he was proprietor, in order to build upon it a double house for his own residence." The design of the edifice, pure Corinthian, was furnished by the distinguished architect, Mr. Robert Adam of Edinburgh. Provosts Bell, Graham, Ferguson, Maxwell, Corbet, Hepburn, and Dickson, under whose "reign" their stylish clerk lived, might have had as good country houses as the Southgate-brae domicile ; but when that tenement rose up, it was the best in the whole Burgh, and if it had shewn face a dozen years earlier, "Bonnie Charlie" would doubtless have seized it for his temporary palace, in lieu of Richard Lowthian's house farther up the Highgate. Large as Archibald Malcolm's residence was, it would give but pinched accommodation to the immense family born to him by his spouse, who was, in this sense, the most fruitful local vine of whom we have any record. The inscription on the monument is subjoined :

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* From the French word *Gardevin*, signifying a wine-bottle.

"In memory of Mr. Archibald Malcolm, many years Town Clerk in Dumfries, who died the 7th of June 1795, aged 81 years. Jean Hay, his spouse, who died 9th April 1809, aged 92 years. The parents of twenty-two children. Also Mrs. Lillias Adair, relict of the late Rev. William Adair, rector of Fermoy, Ireland, and youngest daughter, and 21st child, of the above Archibald Malcolm, who died at Dumfries, 15th June 1854, aged 94 years."

The adjoining stone, which is of the same table form, commemorates some near relatives of the Malcolms, namely, Robert Ramsay, writer (whose name we have often met with as clerk to the Trades), died 16th March 1810, aged 71 ; Jean Malcolm, daughter of the Town-Clerk, his spouse, died 15th January 1820, aged 80 ; also, Jean, their youthful daughter, Archibald, their son, died at 30 ; George Hay, named after his grandmother, their third son, died in New Providence, Barbadoes, at 3 ; and Jean Creighton, spouse of John Ramsay, writer, their fifth and youngest son.

To the memory of two George Walkers, father and son, the next altar-stone is devoted. The elder was Deacon of the Squaremen : he died 22d August 1800, aged 43. Margaret Thomson, his spouse, and three of their youthful children, are also mentioned in the inscription. The younger, a cabinet-maker by trade, died 15th November 1862, aged 67 : Jane Edgar, his spouse ; their daughter, Margaret Munsie, who died at 32, and three of their children, cut off when young ; another child by his second wife Elizabeth (whose maiden name is not given), Marion Walker Clark, died 28th April 1866, aged 27, and an infant, are also named upon the monument.

It was in the venerable Friars' Vennel, the oldest street of the Burgh, that the Cordwainers or Shoemakers were domiciled most numerously ; and not a few of them moulder to dust in this section of St. Michael's. For many generations no name occurred among them so often as Irving. William Irving appears on the earliest roll of shoemakers extant (23d October 1657), though he did not dwell in the Vennel like most of his fraternity, but in the Brig-end (now Maxwelltown). Probably he would be able to count kinship with the Provost Irvings of his day, in a nearer degree than the famous Andrew Fairservice, who boasted that "his mither's mither's third cousin was cousin to the Provost o' Dumfries;" and he may have been progenitor of the respected tradesman, Peter Irving, whose name appears as Deacon of the Shoemakers, together with that of his wife Margaret Musgrove, on a neat little monument further east; he died 11th December 1839, aged 67.

Eastward there are stones which commemorate other Crispinites of the same name: John Irving, died 12th June 1842, aged 73, with Alison Weir his spouse, their sons Alexander died at 17, John at 18, William at 23, and three infant children; Peter Irving, Maxwelltown, died 10th September 1874, aged 78, with Elizabeth Haddon, his wife, and four youthful children.

A chief of the craft, Deacon David Anderson, died 6th February 1791, aged 75, with Isobel M'Kaig, his spouse; Robert Welsh, shoemaker, died 16th April 1803, aged 62, with Marion Charters, his spouse; Thomas Anderson, shoemaker, died 23d February 1812, aged 62, with Nicholas Primrose, his spouse, their issue, four infants, Thomas died at 17, Barbara at 39, and Peter, also a cordwainer, died 9th October 1832, aged 57, with his infant daughter; Margaret Little, wife of James Affleck, shoemaker, died 25th August 1840, aged 37, with two of their youthful offspring; John Weems, shoemaker, died 8th April 1798, aged 30: all these are commemorated in the section. John Weems, progenitor of the last-named craftsman, lies also there, with his wedded partner, Christian Coulter, below a neighbouring thrugh, their streams of life dried up, waiting for the life eternal, that will never experience ebb nor end. On the monumental wall that separates the section from the one lying south we read of Alexander Nicholson, shoemaker, died 3d April 1829, aged 69; Isabella Aiken, his wife; James, their son, died 23d October 1842, aged 55, Marion Aiken his wife, and of their children, Mary died at 7, Primrose at 16, and James at 23.

Before the cordwainers could fabricate foot-gear for the lieges, the butchers and the tanners, of whom we see several memorials lying around, had to ply their respective trades. As mentioned in a preceding chapter, the Gibsons often occupied a foremost rank among the Fleshers' Incorporation. We find their name in that capacity on two venerable thrughs. One of the inscriptions states that "Here lyes Janet Hanie spouse to James Gibson let Diken of the Fleshers who departed this life the 25 of April 1716, and of her age 38 years." In a less uncouth style it is added that the said Deacon occupies a place below, date of death 28th January 1744, age 66; also a second Deacon James Gibson, died 18th August 1784, aged 44, together with Mary Dinwiddie, his spouse. On the other stone we read of "Agnes Martin spous to James Gibson Dicon of the Fleshers who departed this life the 23 October 1720 aged 24 years," of John Gibson, another Deacon of the Craft, died 2d February 1746, aged 34, and of Rachel Johnston, his spouse. Overlooking these humble slabs, rises a handsome headstone in memory of a well-doing burgess, whose forebears they commemorate—James Gibson, hosier, and member of the Town Council, died 21st November 1861, aged 79; of Margaret Reid, his wife; and of their son, Francis, who died in childhood.

Two more Deacons of the Fleshers lie within an enclosure, a few feet distant from these other brothers of the craft, subject to the common experience that "All flesh is grass, and the goodliness thereof is as the flower of the field." A headstone commemorates one of them, James Roan, died 16th March 1784, aged 73; Margaret Milligan, his spouse; and two youthful children. To their son, James, second Deacon of the name, a separate table-monument is allotted. The latter carried on a large business, and was highly respected as a tradesman. He died 26th April 1839, aged 66. Mary Smith, his relict, and Mary, his daughter, spouse of John M'Kie, bookseller, are named on the monument; also Grace, another daughter of Deacon Roan, spouse of David Coulthart, saddler; and William, a son, who died in London, 12th July 1874, aged 63.

Ninety years ago, when the Fleshers of the Burgh, masters, journeymen, and apprentices, numbered 33, the Skinners or

Tanners (associated with whom were the Glovers) numbered only 23, they being the smallest of the Seven Incorporated Trades. At present, however, the craftsmen who provide our community with beef and mutton have been outstripped by those who convert hides into leather, the tanning and currying business of Dumfries having expanded very much of late. A considerable trade in that line was carried on for the greater portion of a century by Robert Watt and his descendants, whose family burying-place we have now reached. He died, as we learn from his tombstone, 14th March, 1801, aged 62 ; his wife, Elizabeth Forsyth (sister of Philip Forsyth, sen., of Nithside), with their children—John, aged 32, Samuel 25, both of whom died in Jamaica, and Agnes, wife of William Weir, died at 69—being included in the inscription.

Their son, William Watt, who continued the business first on his own account, and afterwards in conjunction with his son, Robert, was a man of rare excellence—benevolent, virtuous, a devoted member of the Methodist Connexion, and long holding rank as one of our most popular Burghal rulers ; in which latter capacity he occupied a seat on the Magisterial Bench. Bailie Watt died 23d May 1868, on reaching the venerable age of 84. He was twice married : first to Elizabeth Jean Wilson, next to Elizabeth Balieff. Of his son, Robert, it may truly be said that he followed in the footsteps of his father, and like him he was deservedly honoured with a bailieship. Warm-hearted, amiable, and public-spirited, he was cut off in the midst of his usefulness 3d April 1868, a few weeks before his father, at the early age of 48.

For the first time we meet with the name Hayland in the Cemetery : it appears on the next altar-stone, as having been borne by a smith, whose Christian name was John ; also by his son William, copper-smith, a man of note, seeing that he was chief ruler over all the Trades, and as such presided over the Silver Gun competition, 4th June 1796. The elder Mr. Hayland died 24th February 1762, aged 42 : his wife, Janet Whitt, with six children (ages not stated), are included in the record; besides Convener Hayland, his wife, Jean Potts, two of their youthful offspring, his second wife, Janet Sloan, Helen, their daughter, died at 14, and Jane Hayland (his daughter, probably, by the first marriage), wife of James Henry, died 20th May 1832. Convener Hayland died 8th August 1819, aged 64.

South-east of the Nibloe monument rises another stately one, sacred to the memory of Robert M'Kinnell, nailmaker, who was also a magnate of the highest rank among the craftsmen of his day; and the trade whose flag bore the proud device "By hammer in hand all arts do stand" had no more upright or respected member than Convener M'Kinnell. He died 14th August 1834, aged 59. The name of his spouse, Margaret Bryden, also appears on the inscription.

Margaret Wilson, whose husband, John M'George, was Convener of the Incorporated Seven, lies in an adjoining layer, beside her husband probably, though his name does not appear on the memorial stone: she died 14th January 1823, aged 69.

An altar tombstone near by commemorates, as follows, the two wives of a reverend gentleman whose own monument, farther south, has already been noticed, and which also bears the name of one of them:

> "In memory of Isabella Scott, wife of the Rev. Walter Dunlop of this town, who died on the 16th of January 1814. "Blessed is she that believeth, for there shall be a performance of those things which were told her by the Lord'—Luke i. 45. In memory also of Janet M'Lean, his second wife, who died on the 12th of June, 1828. She was in the prime of life, and her death addresses the living in the words of Holy Writ, 'Be ye also ready, for in such an hour as ye think not, the Son of Man cometh.'"

To the memory of William M'Cracken, mason, his spouse, Janet M'Meeckan, and several of their young children, a table tombstone is dedicated. He died 13th August 1792, aged 80. It is neighboured by a stately structure commemorative of his son, John M'Cracken, who carried on an extensive business as a builder, and died of cholera, 7th October 1832, at Glenluce, whither he had fled from Dumfries in a vain attempt to escape from the epidemic; his age extending to four score, like that of his father. A crossleted cross, with urns, surmounts the monument, the only specimen of that ornament we have yet seen in St. Michael's. The inscription also bears the names of Mr. M'Cracken's wife, Mary Anderson, who predeceased him, of their eldest son, James, Captain in the East India Company's Native Infantry, Bengal, who died at Cawnpore, aged 31 ; of Elizabeth Marley, his spouse ; and of another son, William M'Cracken. The last named gentleman was an accomplished and devoted medical practitioner, who, during the cholera visitation, caught the disease, and died, martyr-like, at the post of duty on the 2d of October 1832, a few days before his father, and on the very day when the highest number of deaths — forty-four — were reported. His brother, John M'Cracken—solicitor in the Supreme Courts of Scotland—a most worthy gentleman, is also mentioned in the inscription. He died in Edinburgh, 29th November 1873, aged 78.

We next reach a very neat monument sacred to the memory of John M'Minn, manufacturer, a man of worth and intelligence, who died 9th October 1832, aged 55. Sarah Lindsay, his spouse (sister of Mrs. Robert Scott, sen.) ; James Lindsay M'Minn, merchant in Demerara, their son, who died 15th November 1833, aged 28 ; and George M'Minn, a highly respectable sharebroker, Dumfries, another son, who died 18th December 1869, aged 54, are also included in the inscription. On the plinth is the intimation, "Erected by Jessie M'Minn, their daughter."

Further west a little we read on a table-stone the name of John Glover, merchant, which recalls the figure of a venerable burgess, who was fresh and genial even when bearing the burden of four score years and five. He died 30th December 1872. The monument commemorates also his wife Margaret ; their son, Robert Hiddleston, veterinary surgeon, died 2d June 1847, aged 25 ; her father, Robert Hiddleston, blacksmith, died 15th November 1825, aged 62 ; her mother, Mary Welsh ; with an infant granddaughter.

There are two other tablet monuments along the same line as that of Alexander Nicholson, both commemorating members of the same family as follows : Robert Miller, weaver, died 16th April 1808, aged 71 ; Mary Alexander, his wife ; Thomas Miller, their son, died 9th November 1836, aged 64 ; Isabella Dyett, his wife ; three of their youthful children ; of William, their son, died 2d May 1860, aged 60 ; George, another son, coal agent, died 3d October 1832, aged 48 ; Margaret Robb, his spouse, their infant son, and George, second son, died at 15, who, it is said, "was esteemed and beloved through life and most sincerely regretted at death."

On the same line, eastward, rises a neat structure dedicated to James Kerr, long the leading plasterer of the district, and who occupied a high social position in the Burgh. He formed one of the six gentlemen who, on the night of March 31st, 1834, descended into the vault of Burns's Mausoleum for the purpose of obtaining a cast of the poet's skull ; which delicate operation, as already mentioned by us, was carefully performed in Mr. Kerr's premises, North Queensberry Street. His death took place on the 6th July 1836, aged 56. The names of his wife, Janet M'Night, and of seven of their children, also appear on the monument ; the latter including James, died at 22, and Anne, wife of the distinguished journalist, James Pagan, of the *Glasgow Herald.* Mr. Pagan died 11th February 1870, and, together with his wife, lies interred in Sighthill Cemetery, Glasgow. He was brought up in that famous nursery of newspaper editors, the *Dumfries Courier*, and his wife was niece to its editor, Mr. John M'Diarmid. Within the enclosure in St. Michael's, which is very neatly kept, there is placed a table tombstone which commemorates the parents of Mrs. Kerr and Mrs. M'Diarmid. William M'Night, merchant, who died 6th December 1807, aged 63, and Ann Thompson, his wife, and two of their children.

Beautiful in sentiment and expression is the following epitaph, which we find upon a humble altar-stone :

> "Here lies all that could die of the pious Margaret Selkirk, wife of John Thorburn, shoemaker, Dumfries, who departed this life 15th February 1812, in the 50th year of her age ; and by the grace of God, and the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, in joyful hope of a glorious immortality."

The husband long outlived his sainted partner, his death occurring 30th December 1832, at the age of 84. A second wife, Frances Morley; John, issue of the first marriage, died 9th August 1840, aged 61; and two children of the latter—John, died at 22, and Margaret at 40—are also named upon the monument. More than ordinary interest attaches to this memorial stone, from the circumstance that Mr. Robert Thorburn, the great miniature painter, is a son of John Thorburn. While the future artist was attending the Dumfries Academy, Mr. John Craik, master of the writing department, noticed and fostered his dawning genius, and at his instance he went to London, where he rose to the highest professional eminence, excelling especially as a miniature painter. In 1845, while yet comparatively young, he executed by commission a portrait of the late Prince Consort, and among his productions in the two following years were portraits of Queen Victoria, the Princess Charlotte of Belgium, and the Duke of Brabant. The *Men of the Times*, in a subsequent notice of the distinguished Dumfries artist, says: "He has continued to advance in reputation, and his groups of the Hon. Mrs. Norton's family, of the Marchioness of Waterford, Viscountess Canning, and of the Duchess of Buccleuch, Ladies Scott and Balfour, elicited special admiration."

Many years before the Union of the Crowns in 1603, the Dyers were numerous enough in Dumfries to constitute a guild of their own; but before the end of the seventeenth century they seem to have been amalgamated with the Tailors' Incorporation. These ancient litsters (as they were termed), the trade progenitors of the Armstrongs and the Shortridges of our own day, did not as a rule deal in fancy colours. With them "true blue" was the prevailing tint, and home-grown wool its chief recipient in the shape of yarns for the spinning wheel or substantial cloth woven by hand-loom weavers—the humble prelude of the tweed fabrics for which our Burgh has come to be so famous. The Rebecca Grierson whose name appears on the stone just noticed was the daughter of "a wabster guid," who lived at a period when this primitive woollen trade was still flourishing, and who may have turned out "blue bonnets" innumerable, and must have litstered lots of hoddan-grey for the better-class burgesses of the district. Fast and true he must have been in his social relationships not less than in the colours of his trade, if the following inscription on his humble monument be not over-coloured :

"Here lie interred the remains of John Grierson, dyer, Dumfries, who departed this life on the 27th January, 1797, in the 86th year of his age. Esteemed by all who knew him as a kind husband and tender parent, a sincere friend, and honest man."

Married first to Rebecca Fergusson, who departed this life March 22d, 1755, aged 42, "a humble Christian, a sincere friend, an affectionate wife, and a tender-hearted mother ;" he afterwards wedded Susanah Cairns, who survived him ten years, and of whom her children are represented as saying—

"Reader, she feels her loss no more : her dust is commingled with his. She waits, like him, the rewards of eternity—a mother whom they who now attest her virtues can only remember with reverence and regret."

Under an altar-stone further east lies a younger craftsman, with whom the veteran litster would, it may be, have much business intercourse—John Paton, Deacon of the Weavers, died 21st May 1765, aged 38, and Mary Newall, his spouse ; the stone commemorating also their son John, killed at the defence of Gibraltar, when that strong fortress was besieged by the Spaniards in September 1782, the gallant soldier falling lifeless at the age of 28. The name of Newall, as borne by relatives probably, is repeated on adjoining headstones, one of which is devoted to a second "son of Mars," James Newall, sergeant of the Royal Artillery, who served under Colonel de Peyster during the whole American war, "left the lines and tented fields" after an experience of forty years, and, dying 18th March 1825, aged 79, found peace in the grave at last.

"Soldier, rest ; thy warfare's o'er ;
Dream of battle-fields no more !"

His spouse, Jean Hill, lies sleeping by his side. On another stone we read of a second Sergeant Newall (Christian name John), who belonged to the Dumfriesshire Militia, died 9th

March 1813, aged 36; of his wife, Henrietta Blacklock; and their offspring, John died at 39, Janet died at 49.

For the sake of connection, we here notice a table tombstone which rises further west in memory of a third soldier, Corporal William Nicholson, of the 26th or Cameronian Regiment. It does not record his gallant actions; but we know that he fought in the Peninsula under General Sir John Moore, was taken prisoner during the memorable retreat from Corunna, was confined in France till 1814, and that he died in Dumfries, 1st May 1857, aged 72. Corporal Nicholson received a medal in recognition of his services, dated 1793-1814, which is now in the possession of his daughter, Miss Nicholson, St. Michael Street. His wife, Janet Graham; James, their son, who died at 27; and Janet Nicholson, spouse of Daniel Inglis, died 6th December 1801, aged 72, are also specified in the inscription.

By tables or headstones in this section the following other craftsmen, with their relatives, are borne in remembrance: Samuel Clark, mason, died 8th January 1853, aged 56, his children—John, also a mason, died at 37, Jane at 22, Marion at 37, "after a long and severe affliction borne with Christian patience and resignation;" John Thomson, joiner, died 2d December 1867, aged 88, with Margaret Martin, his spouse, their children—four who died young, James at 21, John at 22, William at 24; William Crosbie, joiner, died 18th January 1799, aged 85, with Jane Gillespie, his wife; John Beck, tailor, died 25th September 1832, aged 61, Elizabeth Johnston, his spouse, Mary, their daughter, died at 27, Mary, daughter of Joseph Beck, died at 14, an infant son, and John, "a youth of great promise," aged 19; James Haining, tailor, died 16th April 1839, aged 57; Edward Duncan died January 27th 1734, aged 64, with Isobel M'Kenrick, his spouse, and David, youngest son of James Haining, merchant tailor; two youthful children of Samuel Wilson, tailor, Ann Wilson, died 11th October 1847, aged 62, her sister Margaret, died 27th April 1854, aged 78 (probably both sisters of the said Samuel Wilson); Robert M'Caskie, who long plied his vocation as hairdresser in the

Vennel, died 4th December 1837, aged 73, with Isabella Copland, his spouse.

An altar-stone tells the place where lie William Smith, innkeeper, died 30th June 1822, aged 49, Marion Pringle, his spouse, and three of their youthful progeny; and a humbler memento appears of another "publican," Andrew Scott, died 30th January 1818, aged 50. Commemorated by table-stones lie John Allan, died 30th April 1751, aged 25, Margaret Crosbie, his spouse, Janet, their daughter, wife of William Fergusson, died 1st January 1799, aged 68; William Bellinger, died 10th August 1799, aged 49, with his wife, Helen Smith, and their son John, who died at 25; James Rowlandson, farrier, died 1st June 1785, aged 42, with Rose Sandys, his spouse, Agnes, their daughter, who died at 60, Sarah, another daughter, wife of William Robertson, died at 56, and three other children, who died young; George Johnston died 1st April 1809, aged 73, Elizabeth Rowlandson, his wife, and an infant granddaughter; Peter Galen, an Ulster man, born in its flourishing capital, Belfast, died 21st July 1815, aged 41; William Welshe of Scar died 28th March 1780, aged 43, Mary Newall, his wife, with a youthful son, William Newall of Barskeoch (her brother probably), died 18th February 1809, aged 72; and William Johnston, who, after a successful mercantile career in Demerara, spent his closing years at Netherwood Bank, dying 11th November 1840, aged 75.

On headstones not previously noticed we read of Annie Nichol, wife of James Ross, died 26th March 1865, aged 23; of Jean Sturgeon, who had reached the advanced age of 84, when she died 9th March 1842; of Edward Duncan, died 27th January 1754, aged 64, with Isobel M'Kenrick, his spouse; of James Somerville, master of the schooner "Alexander," died 12th February 1858, aged 69; of James Dinwiddie, died 15th July 1792, aged 57, with Rachel Nicholson, his spouse, and David (their son, we believe), died 1st February 1831, aged 87; and on a diminutive slab the names of nine youthful members of one family circle, that of William Lookup, remorselessly broken in upon by "the destroying angel."

CHAPTER XVII.

SECOND INTERIOR SECTION—CONTINUED.

SEVERAL sons of Esculapius, who practised the healing art in Dumfries about the middle of the last century—Dr. James Hay, Dr. George Archibald, Dr. Ebenezer Gilchrist, Dr. James Morrison, Dr. Robert Mitchell, Dr. John Gordon, Dr. John Fergusson, and others—lie with their patients in the Churchyard, subject to the same irrevocable doom. The last named of these medical gentlemen, who died 6th July 1774 (age not stated), sleeps obscurely beneath an adjoining thrugh, the lettering on which has been cut by some incompetent or careless hand. He is specified as "a curgeon," and as "a worthy honest man, without show or ostentation;" as "diligent and cautiaus in his profession." Then an idea about his devoted attention to humble folks vainly struggles to find fit expression in the following style: "A good friend too and niur unheard by the poor;" after which it is stated that he "lived much esteemed and died greatly regreted." "Mrs. Doctor Ferguson," died 9th January 1800, aged about 60, and their son John, died 7th July 1814, aged 36, are also commemorated by the monument, the inscription stating that "He was justly lamented by his relatives and by all who knew him, his exemplary life was well worthy of imitation."

Another professional gentleman, contemporary with some of the foregoing—Robert Boyd, "Writter" in Dumfries—lies below a thrugh-stone of a less humble grade. He died 5th August 1727, aged 44. From the date of the Union till our own day the Burgh seems always to have had a plentiful proportion of lawyers in its population. Robert M'Burnie of Larglangley, Robert Edgar, Thomas Carlyle, James Gordon, James Smith, James Copland, and James Dickson were among the legal brethren of Mr. Boyd, whose names we have seen on old writs or tombstones, at a time when the inhabitants did not number more than 5000, if so many.

Standing beside the table tombstone of Agnes Edgar, we look direct west for a minute to catch a glimpse, as we do, of the Hospital in St. Michael Street, which comfortable retreat for decayed burgesses and orphans was brought into existence by two brothers, of whom her husband was one. We cannot tell whether or not "James Murhead, late Baylie of this Burgh," lies beside his spouse, as the inscription only mentions him in his married relationship to her; but if it could be found out by any means that the philanthropist was buried here or elsewhere in Dumfries, a stone erected to mark the hallowed spot would be a graceful, even though a tardy, tribute to his great worth. But, apart from this, the knowledge of his name and services will remain with us so long as the institution survives, which he and his brother-german, William Moorhead, established at an expense of £711 10s 6d sterling—a large sum in those days, and which was subsequently swelled by a donation of £300 from the Good Duke of Queensberry, and by smaller sums mortified for behoof of the poor. Agnes Edgar, who long predeceased her husband, "departed this life" 5th of March 1705. On the stone we further read that "Here also lyes William, David Robert, and Robert, Elizabeth, Joseph, and Bethea Murhead, children to the above-named James Murhead." The death of Stephen, the young son of James M'Caskie, is also recorded on the stone; and an adjoining table-stone commemorates George M'Caskie, hat manufacturer, Dumfries, died 18th July 1822, aged 41, and Elizabeth Balieff, his spouse. It may be safely inferred, we think, from these inscriptions, that the M'Caskies were closely related to the Moorheads; the probable bond of connection between them being the marriage of James M'Caskie to the daughter of Bailie Moorhead.

Near by rises a handsome headstone in memory of John Lawson, merchant, Dumfries, died 6th June 1809, aged 40; Rebecca Grierson, his spouse; and of their son, Robert Cairns Lawson, sometime of Liverpool, who fell a victim to fever in Maracaibo, South America, 1st August 1822, just when he had come of age. Of this young man it is stated :

"To talents for business of the first order he added an honourable and well-cultivated mind. He was beloved and respected by his friends and acquaintances, and the remembrance of his worth will long be cherished and revered."

Two other members of the mercantile class lie below neighbouring stones of the tabular form, one being Thomas Wallace, died 4th June 1750, aged 47. Neighbouring him in the grave lie his spouse, Agnes Mein ; their son, John Wallace, died 8th January 1813, aged 80, with Ann Kelly, his wife, and the children of the latter—three infants, and James, died at 24 ; also Agnes, a daughter of the merchant, wife of John Docherty, tailor, died 22d December 1801, aged 28.

The other merchant referred to, who lived contemporary with John Lawson, is John Henderson, a shrewd, intelligent man of business, who became owner of Nunholm and other property near Barkerland, the former of which is now in the possession of his grand-nephew. Mr. Henderson, who was for many years an efficient member of St. Michael's Kirk-session, died 21st November 1809, aged 76. His wife, Sarah Creighton, survived till 25th October 1815, when she died in her 85th year.

Another table-stone marks the resting-place of David Williamson, draper, who, though he died 11th July, 1824, at the age of 58, was in business when Burns was yet alive, and supplied the bard with his uniform as a volunteer. His spouse, Jane Louden, died so recently as 11th October 1853, aged 82. She was the niece of the celebrated adventurer Paul Jones, who aided the Americans in their War of Independence, and afterwards entered the Russian service, in which he rose to the rank of Rear-Admiral. He was born at Arbigland, Kirkbean, 6th July 1747, and died in Paris, 18th July 1792. Many years afterwards his sister's daughter, Mrs. Williamson, succeeded through the influence of the American Government in obtaining the residue of her uncle's effects, amounting to about £700, after proving to the satisfaction of the Paris officials that she was next of kin to Admiral Paul Jones. Mrs. Williamson will be remembered by many of our older readers as tenant of the Commercial

Hotel, Dumfries. She bore a large family to Mr. Williamson, the whole of them, we believe, being mentioned in the inscription; four infants, Helen died at 7, Jane at 11, Margaret at 12, John at 16; three, "James, David, and Samuel, who died in India," Robina died at 46, and Elizabeth at 68. John Williamson, named above, was a remarkable boy. Somewhat wayward when in health, he, during his last illness, manifested such spirituality of mind and ecstatic faith and hope while about to pass away from earth, that a memoir of him, written jointly by Mr. John M'Diarmid and the Rev. William Symington of Stranraer, was published soon after his death, 29th December, 1826, which made a great impression in local circles at the time.

Our attention is next turned to an imposing Gothic monument raised in memory of John M'Ghie, surgeon, Royal Navy, died 10th October 1832, aged 46, his wife, Elizabeth Martin, and their daughters, Eleanora, who died at 14, and Elizabeth Mary at 50. Two table-stones, of a homelier but interesting character, rise beside it, above anterior members of the family—one of whom figured for a day in a local episode of the '45. This was William M'Ghie, painter, an enthusiastic Jacobite, who, when the Pretender occupied Dumfries, went down towards Carlisle to watch the movements of the Duke of Cumberland, who had laid siege to the Border city. He set off for that purpose on Sabbath, the 22d of December, and while taking supper at a hostlery in Annan a practical humourist, who suspected the object of his mission, startled him with the unfounded tidings that the Royal Duke had captured Carlisle, and was hurrying on at full speed with the view of securing a much greater prize, Bonnie Charlie himself. Mr. M'Ghie at once took horse northward, never halting for a moment till he had, at a private audience of the Prince, held in what is now No. 7 of the Commercial Hotel, narrated the terrible though fictitious tale. Acting upon it the rebels left Dumfries before sunrise next day, in the full belief that Cumberland was following rapidly on their trail with a superior force. The people of the Burgh were certainly obliged to Painter M'Ghie, as he was popularly termed, for being the unwitting cause of delivering them so soon from their unwelcome visitors. He is stated by the inscription to have died 28th February 1768, aged 67, Mary Gordon, his spouse, being also named in it, and two daughters. The monument appears to have been erected chiefly in memory of his son, William M'Ghie, painter and glazier, who was for awhile Chief of the Trades, of the latter's wife, Catherine Mackenzie, and their son James, assistant surgeon, 20th Regiment Bengal Native Infantry, who died at sea 10th January 1810, aged 37, when on his way to the home he never saw again. Convener M'Ghie died 3d December 1802, aged 72. In Mayne's *Siller Gun* "Johnny Gas," describing the Trades' procession, says :

"See, too, enarm'd wi' sword and spear,
M'Ghee our ain town's bairn draws near ;
Sirs, when the Highlanders were here,
In Forty-five,
His father gart them flee for fear,
And skulk belyve."

Reverting to John M'Ghie, surgeon (son of the Convener), we may state that, like Dr. M'Cracken, he was attacked by cholera when attending professionally to other sufferers from it, and was fatally wounded by the arrows of the pestilence, dying as much a martyred hero as the leader of a forlorn hope who falls lifeless " i' the imminent deadly breach."

The name of Robert Riddick of Corbieton has already been introduced by us in connection with the singular dream of his wife, who during the night watches saw the unknown military surgeon who (as proved to be the case) was destined to save her life. Laid low at length by the irresistible shaft of death, she sleeps beside her husband in a neighbouring compartment. He died 16th June 1777, aged 46; while she, Margaret Duke by name, long outliving him, died 8th January 1801, aged 79. They had an adventurous family, many of them going abroad ; their names appearing on the monument, but "their graves are scattered far and wide, by mount and stream and sea." Their eldest born, Captain William Riddick, of the 22d Foot Regiment, lies in the island of St. Domingo, aged 33 ; Nathaniel, their second son, died in

Africa when only 21; their third son, Robert, died in Hindostan, aged 29; and John, their fourth, also breathed his last in Africa. Their fifth son, Alexander, remaining at home, became a prosperous wine merchant in Dumfries. He died 3d December 1831, aged 59, "much regretted" (says the inscription) "by a numerous and respectable acquaintance." One of their daughters, Mary, died at 18; another, who was married to William Lawson of Girthead, died 4th December 1841, aged 79.

Among the monuments in this section there is none so imposing as the one next arrived at, a noble pyramid raised in memory of Hugh Lawson of Girthead. It was built, we believe, from a design supplied by Mr. Thomas Boyd, the architect of the New Bridge of Dumfries. It is in fine condition, having been carefully repaired some years ago by Mr. Watson. A cavity in the square massive base of the edifice displays an urn of classical shape nearly in full relief; above stands an inscribed tablet, bearing these words and dates, "To the memory of Hugh Lawson of Girthead, who died September viii., MDCCLXXI., aged lxiii years." Nothing is said regarding the character of the deceased, but a medallion portrait of him in profile is placed over the inscription to shew what manner of man he was; and if it be a faithful likeness, the laird of Girthead must have been a shrewd, sensible, thrifty, yet kindly and social person. A festooned scarf falls gracefully over the mask; a dog in demi, with the legend "Quod honesti moutile," holding watch over all. The west face of the tablet commemorates his eldest son, William Lawson, also of Girthead, the husband of Margaret Riddick, as recorded on an adjacent stone. He died in 1819, aged 67. On the east side appears the name of a granddaughter of Hugh Lawson, daughter, we presume, of William, with the date of her death, 27th November 1857, and age, 72.

Along the same line as the foregoing we see a neat monument in memory of another worthy merchant, James Fergusson, died 11th November 1848, aged 41, of his wife, Isabella Crosthwaite, and two of their children, John who died at 7, and Helen at 12. An inscription on the lower part of the stone records the names of four grandchildren, sons of Alexander Lorimer, builder, all of whom died young.

"Here lyes the body of Mr. Thomas Rome of Cludan, dyed 25th of Dec. 1710." So we read on a neighbouring stone that wears a very humble aspect as compared with the position occupied by the deceased as an opulent landed proprietor and, also if we mistake not, as Provost of Dumfries. Mr. Rome's age is not recorded, and there is a long Latin epitaph below his name which could not have been more difficult to trace if it had been submerged for a while in the waters of Lethé. The Romes were an old Annandale family, some of whom settled in Nithsdale more than three hundred years ago. Dalswinton Holm, owned at one time by the Red Comyn, and whose praise at a later day was sung by Allan Cunningham, belonged to them early in the seventeenth century, and at a subsequent period they acquired the lands of Cludan. When the ebony staff was relinquished by William Craik, first Provost of Dumfries after the Revolution Settlement, it was conferred on Thomas Rome of Cludan in 1691, and he had a second "reign" of three years in 1704-5-6. As the dates and designation harmonise with the words we have quoted, it seems certain that the dust of Provost Rome occupies this neglected spot, below a stone that can never have been in the least degree imposing, and whose precious memorial inscription is now all but obliterated. For several years the Burgh's official prop and pride, the very monument that was meant to perpetuate his services has fallen from its supports and threatens to become a total wreck!

Already in this section we have visited the resting places of thirteen conveners and deacons. The grave of Robert Maxwell, coppersmith, now reached, adds another to the list. When the Trades met, 6th June 1783, to compete for the Silver Gun, they were presided over by Convener Maxwell. He died 10th June 1805, aged 79. His spouse, Jean Hannah, lies in the same layer, both commemorated by a table-stone, overlooking which rises a stately monument, "Sacred to the memory of Agnes Maxwell, widow of the Rev. Patrick Maxwell of Monkland, she died the 25th January 1831, and of Jean Maxwell, who died 5th October 1834. They died advanced in years, and were daughters of Robert Maxwell, Convener of the Trades."

The place in the grounds, once occupied by the Colliston Coplands of the seventeenth century, has already been noticed; and we now reach a spot where some of their successors lie—a square enclosure containing a very handsome modern monument of granite, bearing the family crest, and dedicated to the memory of William Copland of Colliston, who died at Blackwood (Keir), 7th September 1851, aged 43; William, his eldest son, a gentleman of rare worth, who was cut off at the early age of 30, on 8th April 1870; another son, Charles, who saw only five summers; and a daughter, Harriet, who died in infancy. This structure, which is of a material that will last till the crack of doom, overlooks two sandstone thrughs that are beginning to look old though their dates are not remote. One bears to have been erected by Catherine, daughter of Alexander Copland of Colliston, second wife of John Hamilton of Aldershaw, in memory of Ann, her only child, died 30th May 1798, aged 14, and of whom it is said: "Early, bright, transient, chaste as morning dew, she sparkled, was exhaled, and went to heaven." Other inscriptions follow to commemorate the said John Hamilton, died in March 1813, aged 79; his wife Catherine; and his first wife, Ann Craik; also his daughter Grace, by her, who died in 1846, at the venerable age of 82. Alexander Copland of Kingsgrange is commemorated by the second slab. He died 16th April 1801, aged 57, "after an active and useful life spent in discharging the duties of the medical profession in this place."

Of yet another Trade dignitary we obtain trace on a neighbouring stone, also tabular in form, bearing the name Anne Fergusson, wife of Deacon James M'Kill, died 10th June 1803, aged 32. Below the words "In memory of" a blank is left, which ought to have been filled up probably with his own name. The inscription specifies the name of his son Robert, died at Concord, Island of Tobago, in 1821, aged 31, "much regretted by all who knew him;" also the names of Deacon M'Kill's second wife, Margaret Thomson, died 13th October 1832, aged 70, and six of his children, all of whom died young.

The name of a worthy tradesman appears on the adjoining table tombstone—George Thomson, at one time Deacon of the Tailors, died 5th October 1832, aged 55; also those of his spouse, Mary Lookup, and five of their children, including Robert who died at 7, and John at 35. And a similar stone, next to it, is sacred to the memory of their daughter-in-law, Jane Mason, wife of our respected townsman, Mr. George Thomson, clothier, died 5th May 1837, aged 27.

Notice has already been taken of the monuments which commemorate William Hood, nurseryman, who died at 65, and his son, of the same name and occupation, who died at 30. The younger William Hood of Hollybush, Mary his wife, their son Thomas, died at 18, and their daughter Elizabeth, wife of George Simpson, died in Glasgow at 25, lie in this section. Beside the imposing structure which bears their names, rises an altar-stone which enables us to trace the parent stock of the family: John Hood, died 8th March 1804, aged 84, and Mary M'Cartney, his spouse; together with additional branches: Thomas, their son, died 30th October 1810, aged 59, with his wife Agnes Roberts, and their son John, who died in childhood.

A venerable slab marks the spot where lies Herries M'Whan, gardener, died 26th June 1788, aged 34: "Upon which mournful event," says the inscription, "his widow was deprived of a valuable husband, his children of an affectionate parent, and society of a useful member. He died most justly lamented by all who knew him." It is quaintly added, "at his right hand"—the hand that has long since lost its cunning—"lyes 4 sons and 3 daughters"—the olive branches whose growth was arrested soon after the overthrow of the parent stem, to the additional grief doubtless of the widow, who surviving all her bereavements gave vent to her sorrow in the words which we have quoted.

In virtue of acts passed by the Dumfries Council, 9th October 1594, the Incorporated Fleshers of the Burgh acquired a monopoly of the meat trade, except on market-days, when beef and mutton might be offered for sale by other butchers. This exclusive system was still in full force when Fergus Rae, whose name we find on a flat thrugh, fed his own nolt and sheep that he might be able to supply savoury "flesches" for the tables of the lieges. He died 6th September, 1797, aged 75. The stone was raised in memory also of his spouse, Jane Jackson (sister of Provost Jackson), "by their affectionate son, James Rae, merchant," and, according to the inscription, "they were both esteemed in life, and at death regretted." Catherine Barkiss, second wife of Fergus Rae, is also commemorated by the monument; the memory of his son being preserved by an adjoining altar-stone, the lettering on which represents him as "James Rae, Esquire of Park, merchant and banker," died 27th December 1815, aged 57. The names of Janet M'Kune, wife of his nephew John Rae, and of their three children, also appear in the inscription. February 1830 proved a singularly fatal period for the family, the whole of the offspring, John, Janet, and David, having been laid low, by fever probably, during that month.

A table-stone near by bears the following inscription, the poetical portion of which contrasts pathetically the gifts and graces of the person commemorated with the brevity of his existence:

"In memory of Mr. John Sandilands, minister of the Gospel at Sanquhar, esteemed in life and lamented at death by all who knew him. Ordained April 1738, and died suddenly at Dumfries August 28, 1741, aged 29 years."

"O just beheld, & lost; admir'd, & mourn'd;
With lovely virtues, charming arts adorn'd.

Mr. Sandilands was killed by a fall from his horse.

Farther south we notice the resting-place of two respected Crispinites, one of them being Peter or Patrick Henderson, who spent his latter days at the seat of his son-in-law, Mr. Fergusson of Westwood, near Reigate, Surrey, where he died 3d January 1872, at the patriarchal age of 87. In the same place lie his wife, Elizabeth Aitken, and their daughter Grace, died at 21. One of their sons, John, acquired much repute as an architect at Liverpool, but was cut off in his early prime. Another son, James, who also crossed the Border, settled down at Nottingham, and is one of numerous Dumfriesians who have met with business success south of the Sark. The other grave is that of Peter Henderson's brother James, who, though many years in business for himself, stuck to his last nearly as long as life endured, turning out some of the finest workmanship at the age of fourscore. The worthy veteran died 29th April 1876 when in his 82d year. Separated from these brothers by more than two centuries we find "William Henrieson, frieman in Drumfries," entered on the oldest existing list of Incorporated Shoemakers; and down till the present day the trade has always numbered many others of the name.

James Blount, for some time a respectable farmer in Rosehall, lies below a neat table-stone, died 5th November 1816, aged 60; also his spouse, Minnie Kissock; George Blount, spirit merchant, their son, died 14th May 1833, aged 27; another son, Robert Blount, surgeon, died at Jamaica, July 23, aged 25; and Samuel, cousin to the above, son of Lieutenant David Blount, who died in Jamaica, September 1828, aged 34.

Long before the date of penny newspapers or cheap periodicals of any kind literary wares were traded in on a large scale by John Sinclair. His spacious premises on the Plainstones were a favourite resort of the County squires, who found in the worthy bibliopolist a suave companion as well as a pleasant man of business. Mr. Sinclair was a member of the Town Council and of the Magisterial Bench; and he long ably officiated as chairman of the Parochial Board. He lies buried in the compartment next arrived at, a stately monument rising to his memory and that of his wife Helen Douglas. He died 16th February 1855, aged 72.

Nine members of the Knockgray family receive commemoration from the next monument, which is a magnificent one, as befits their high position. The Kennedys of Knockgray claim to be descended from the old Celtic thanes who ruled over Carrick, when that district formed a portion of Galloway. Knockgray, in the Stewartry, was purchased by the Rev. Alexander Kennedy, minister of Straiton, born 1663, and the name of his great-great-granddaughter appears first upon the monument, its chief marble tablet bearing the following record :

"In memory of Ann Kennedy, eldest daughter of the late Alexander Kennedy, Esq. of Knockgray, and wife to John Clark of Nunland, who died IV. March, MDCCXCV., aged XLI.; and of the above John Clark, Esqr., also interred here, who died 30th June 1813, aged 63 years."

On the plinth, and separated from the foregoing inscription by a piece of beautiful carved work, we read :

"This tablet is erected to the memory of Mary Kennedy of Knockgray, second daughter of the above named Alexander Kennedy. She died at Dumfries the 13th day of Nov., 1835, in the 76th year of her age."

Two mural erections close in the compartment on each side, both of which have been turned to a memorial purpose ; one of them, on the east, bearing the following words :

"In memory of Christiana, third daughter of John Clark, Esq. of Nunland, who died at Dumfries 29th April 1783, aged 80 years ; and of Archibald John, infant son of Colonel Alexr. Kennedy Clark Kennedy, H.M. Madras Staff Corps ; and Harriet, his wife, who died at Kamptee, East Indies, on the 16th day of June 1845. And Frederick John, third son of the above, who died at Wallace Hall, Closeburn, on the 25th June 1853, aged 6 years. His remains are interred in this spot."

The western wall tablet is thus inscribed :

"In memory of Lieutenant-General Sir Alexr. Kennedy Clark Kennedy, K.C.B., K.H. of Knockgray, who died in London on the 30th day of January 1864, aged 81 years. His remains are interred in this spot. Also, of Harriet Rebekah, wife of the above, who died at Cheltenham, aged 74 years ; Harriet Sarah, their eldest daughter, who died at Cheltenham, aged 36 years ; and Charlotte Anne, their youngest daughter, who died at Darsham, Suffolk, aged 38 years."

Come of a valiant race, the deceased Lieutenant-General (son of John Clark of Nunland) was "bravest of the brave." He led the centre squadron of the Royal Dragoons into the thickest of the conflict at Waterloo, and when charging the 105th Regiment of French Infantry, captured its colours and eagle with his own hand. He was the father of Colonel Clark Kennedy, who contested the Dumfries Burghs with

Mr. William Ewart eleven years ago. He died in Egypt, when on his way to join the Abyssinian expedition, and his remains were laid in the new ground of St. Michael's, which we have yet to visit.

Near the Knockgray monument a handsome four-sided pillar bears upon it names that were closely associated with the Episcopalian congregation of Dumfries at an early date. About the close of last century, when a mere handful, occupying a small chapel in English Street, they were ministered to by a clergyman whose epitaph appears as follows on the north side of the monument:

"In memory of the Revd. William Babington, D.D., of Trinity College, Dublin, for 46 years minister of St. Mary's Episcopal Chapel here, who died April 4th 1818, aged 72; also of Janet his wife, daughter of Charles Maitland, Esqr. of Eccles, who died May 1st 1814, aged 66; also of Mary, their daughter, born June 16th 1780, died June 16th 1826."

Dr. Babington's wife belonged to one of the oldest of our County families, and it will be seen from the following inscription, which is on the east side, that his son had for father-in-law the greatest burghal magnate of his day, Provost Staig:

"In memory of the Revd. Charles Maitland Babington, M.A., of Baliol College, Oxford [founded by Devorgilla], Rector of Peterstow, Herefordshire, and for 22 years minister of St. Mary's Episcopal Chapel here, second son of the Rev. William Babington, D.D., born May 4th 1775, died August 5 1841. Also of Lilias his wife, daughter of David Staig, Esq., born March 26th 1778, died April 20th 1827."

The west tablet is dedicated to "John Babington, Esquire, for many years in the Madras Civil Service," died 22d April 1852, aged 66, and two of his children, Anne Amelia, aged 30, and A. Melville, aged 21, by his wife Eliza.

On a large plain block we read "The Burial Place of Mr. James Dickson, late sheriff-clerk, and his family, 1776;" these words being unaccompanied by any information respecting the members of the household who sleep below.

CHAPTER XVIII.

SECOND INTERIOR SECTION—CONTINUED.

STILL proceeding eastward, we reach the narrow cabins occupied by numerous masons and carpenters, who, when alive, helped to build that part of Dumfries which rose up between the time of the Jacobite occupation and the first twenty years of the current century. In the records of that period such names as Frew, Tweddle or Waddell, Harley, Mein, Aitken, Watson, Samson, and Crombie, frequently occur in connection with building operations, and we also find them occasionally on the tombstones of St. Michael's. A tabular monument in this section rises above Andrew Watson, Deacon of the Squaremen, died 21st October 1793, aged 65; Mary Scott, his spouse; Francis Watson, joiner, their son, died 15th April 1825, aged 59; and bears the names of other children, as follows: Andrew, died at 23, Ann at 26, George at 38, and James at 40, Catherine an infant, and "Jean, Charlotte, Mary, Thomas, William, Catherine, and Wilhelmina, who died all in man and womanhood." An adjoining stone, of the same shape, commemorates some of their connections, among others Jean Watson, spouse of James Aitken, joiner, died 22d July 1780, aged 21; an infant son; together with Catherine M'Millan, spouse of William Watson, joiner, died 12th November 1822, aged 33; and five children, including Mary, who died at 17. Under natural mourning weeds supplied by a sombre yew tree, rises a neat memorial crosslet, dedicated to Jessie, infant daughter of William Aitken of the Southern Club. The above Deacon Watson was a native of Perth. When working as a joiner in Edinburgh, he was engaged by the Duke of Queensberry to erect Tinwald House, which he did, both mason-work, and carpentry. He was thus led to settle in Dumfries, and his descendants to the fourth generation have pursued the mason trade in this Burgh. James, one of his sons, was factor to Lord Dundas, and lies buried away from his kindred in Kirkwall Cathedral, Orkney.

Beneath a series of three chain-surrounded altar-stones, lie several of the Waddell family. The name of "Thomas Boyd, Esq., architect," who married Jane Waddell, appears with her's in one of the inscriptions; as does that of their daughter Catherine, died at Nellfield, Burntisland, 4th April 1872. It was from his design, as previously mentioned, that the handsome New Bridge which spans the Nith at Dumfries was erected in 1791-4 by Mr. William Stewart, builder. Mr. Boyd was a man of great professional talent, and while only an ordinary stone is dedicated to his memory we can see in this realm of the dead and in the Burgh outside unmistakable tokens of his architectural taste and skill. He died 23d September 1822, aged 69.

On the second stone appear the names of William Waddell, mason, died 3d April 1781, aged 69; of Jean Butter, his spouse; and of several of their offspring, including Peter Waddell, who died in Jamaica, aged 29, and Elizabeth, Catherine, and Janet, whose ages are not specified. The third bears some rough antique carving in high relief, grotesque representations of five cherub faces, typical of John, Elizabeth, Mary, Robert, and John, the children of James and Sarah Waddell, whose tiny "earthly tabernacles" moulder below, waiting there to be set up anew. Then follow the sacred words, "Suffer little children to come unto me. Luk 17, v. 16." An additional inscription states that "Here lyes James Waddell, late Deacon of the Squaremen, who died 24th March 1751, aged 76 years;" also his second wife, Elizabeth Robinson."

It may be as well for us to explain that the incorporation over which Deacon Waddell presided included glaziers, cabinetmakers, coopers, and slaters, as well as masons and carpenters—all craftsmen, in fact, who used the square. In his day they numbered about 220 masters, journeymen, and apprentices. Near where he lies we see two headstones—one commemorative of John Carruthers, joiner, died 16th December 1823, aged 79, Anne Haining, his spouse, their offspring, Thomas died in Jamaica at 23, Janet at 45, Jane at 79, and seven infant children; the other bearing the names of

John Haddon, joiner, Maxwelltown, died 11th January 1837, aged 67, Sarah Carson, his spouse, and three of their children, two of whom were infants, and the third was Robert Haddon, artist, who was cut off just after reaching his majority, 28th February 1842.

Further east and north lie other representatives of the building trades: Thomas M'Keand, joiner, died 12th April 1829, aged 70, with "Mrs. Jean Batt," his spouse; James Mein, mason, died 9th September 1710, aged 33, with Agnes M'Neill his wife, and John Gillespie, died 16th December 1787, aged 83; James Goldie, bricklayer, died 3d June 1803, aged 67, with Janet Blackstock, his spouse; and Kinloch Winlaw, house carpenter, who, as chief of the Incorporated Seven, led them to the field of a bloodless contest to compete for King James's trophy, 4th June 1802. Convener Winlaw died 21st May 1820, aged 67; his wife, Agnes Corson, lies beside him. For three generations the slating trade of Dumfries has been largely in the hands of Thomas Briggs or Bridges and his descendants, though at the time when he flourished all the secondary streets of the Burgh shewed an unvarying covering of thatch. He died 10th June 1810, aged 44: on the slab which commemorates him appear also the names of his wife, Margaret Wilson; of Thomas, their son, died at 31; and of Agnes, their granddaughter, died at 17. A neat erection of Gothic design rises in memory of another son, John Bridges, slate merchant, who died "much regretted," 7th May 1856, at the age of 72; the name of his son James, who died at 23, appearing in the inscription, and that of Agnes, his daughter, being repeated upon it.

Robert Biggar, mason, died 14th January 1798, aged 48, and his wife, Isabella M'Whir, are commemorated by another table monument; which also bears the name of a skilful musician, John Christopher Muller, and their daughter Mary, to whom he was married. Herr Muller came to Dumfries, we believe, as bandmaster of the local militia, and eventually set up his staff as a resident in the Burgh. The inscription states that he was born at Gisparsleban, Thuringia, and that he was "a professor of music." He was much esteemed in the town of his adoption. Both he and his wife were cut off by cholera in September 1832.

On other tables or headstones we read of John Thomson, skinner, died 8th September 1770, with Agnes Kerr his wife, and several youthful children: of David Smith, died in August 1795, aged 65, with Sarah Richardson his wife; of William Brown, a Sanquhar weaver, who died in Dumfries 16th February 1857, aged 42; of Archibald Smith, also a weaver, died 4th October 1871, aged 82, with Sarah Menzies his spouse, and Janet, their daughter, relict of the above William Brown; of another "knight of the loom," John Jackson, died 10th April 1792, aged 39, and three of his juvenile progeny; and of two youthful children, the issue of William Crosbie, painter, and Janet Grierson his spouse.

Of last century publicans we find few records in the Churchyard. The incidents of Mayne's "Siller Gun'" occurred in 1777; and he represents the sweating marchers to the competition as longing for "ale that reams frae Jenny Gass's," who at the above date "kept a noted public-house in Dumfries, much frequented by respectable people, and famed for a sort of ale called two-penny, agreeable to the taste, very brisk, and intoxicating." She was sister of John Gas, the famous barber, and no doubt lies likewise in the Cemetery, though the precise spot is now unknown. The oldest names among them as yet met with are those of Richard Miller, died 7th February 1781, aged 60, whose spouse, Elizabeth Martin, rests with him below the tablestone erected to their memory; and of James Cuthbart, died 19th February 1784, aged 74, to whom and his wives, Mary Kirkpatrick and Isobel Anderson, a similar monument is devoted. Among their chief contemporaries in the same business were John Beck, William Jardine, James Swan, Thomas Davidson, and John Ewart, whose united loans for the tribute money of £2000 sterling, exacted by the Pretender in 1745, amounted to £14 8s. In the middle of the seventeenth century the King's Arms or Commercial of that day was kept by Mrs. M'Kill, whose house was so much frequented by the public authorities that she might have put upon her sign-board, and probably did so, "Patronised by the Provost, Bailies, and Town Council." Soon after the death of Richard Miller, Robert Fergusson, the Scottish poet, paid a rambling visit to Dumfries for the purpose of seeing "a bosom cronie," named Charles Salmon, who was employed in Mr. Jackson's printing office; and he would no doubt "forgather" with his brother bard, John Mayne, who at this time also wrought as a compositor in the same establishment. From "Verses" written by Fergusson upon the occasion, it appears that he and his friend patronised the existing hostelries only too liberally. He particularly speaks of "the Marshals and Busbys," from the latter of whom sprang the Bushby of Burns's verse, as the great dispensers of "barley bree" at that period in the Burgh, and was so pleased with his trip that he longed for "some orra pence, mair sillar, and a wee mair sense," that he might be able to "bide a' simmer." Soon afterwards, alas; the unfortunate poet had to exchange all scenes of revelry, mirth, and beauty for a bed "in that dark inn, the grave."

Ale was the national drink for many a century before *aqua vitae* came into use; and the custom was, for the maker of the drink to be the retailer of the same. When George Boyd, maltster, whose neat table-stone we now approach, began business, there would be somewhere about ninety others to compete with him in Dumfries as brewers or publicans; and many a plack he would have to pay as his share of the two pennies Scots levied by the Town Council on every pint of ale brewed or vended in the Burgh, to defray the expense of building the New Church. Mr. Boyd died February 22d 1752, aged 41. The names of his daughter Elizabeth, died at Liverpool, aged 73, and of his son, William Boyd of Marchhill, died 14th March 1827, aged 79, appear upon the monument, together with that of the latter's wife, Margaret Moffat.

Brandy was in considerable use when Dame M'Kill was the leading landlady; and at that time French wines were in great request by the upper-class people who patronised her establishment. The supply of claret having run short in 1661, the Town Council enjoined all the "vintners" of the Burgh to sell it at not more than five groats a pint. We sometimes light upon a monument with that term upon it in the singular form, but the dates are comparatively recent: of William Baxter, "late vintner," we read on a humble headstone, who died 26th May 1818, at the age of 37.

Powerful as the ploughshare of the husbandman and as the spade of the gardener are, they are no match for the implements of the sexton. Robert and Charles Barry, who, as farmers, turned over many acres in Nithsdale during the middle of the last century, lie near by, low as clods of the valley, the former dying 20th May 1770, the latter 18th April 1798 (ages not legible); so lies also an octogenarian contemporary of theirs, Adam Black, gardener, cut down when fully ripe, 4th March 1793: his wife Mary, with four sons, garnered in beside him, Michael who died at 43, Adam at 50, Andrew at 75, and James, also at 75. With the same branch of cultivation the name of Bogie has long been and still is associated in the Burgh. James Bogie, the friend of Burns, occupies, as we have already noticed, a plot not far from the Mausoleum, and several of his kindred lie near their professional brother, Adam Black, beneath two table tombstones; one in memory of James Bogie, gardener, died 12th January 1793, aged 76, with Mary Grierson, his spouse; the other commemorating Alexander Bogie, nurseryman (father of Mr. John Bogie, gardener), died 22d March 1847, aged 68, with Sarah Stewart his first wife, and Elizabeth Suel his second wife, and four of his children, "three Williams," and John, who died in infancy.

But as we were reminded in the preceding chapter, the conquering sword of the soldier shares the same fate as the pruning hook of the husbandman.

"Some men with swords may reap the field,
And plant fresh laurels where they kill:
But their strong nerves at last must yield;
They tame but one another still:
Early or late,
They stoop to fate,
And must give up their murmuring breath,
When they, pale captives, creep to death."

The emblems of sovereignty also, as the poet just quoted tells us, become tributary to the same levelling decree :

"The glories of our mortal state
Are shadows, not substantial things ;
There is no armour against fate ;
Death lays his icy hand on kings—
Sceptre and crown
Must tumble down,
And in the dust be equal made
With the poor crooked scythe and spade."

And, to quote from another poem, *Gray's Elegy :*

"The boast of heraldry, the pomp of power,
And all that beauty, all that wealth e'er gave,
Await alike the inevitable hour :
The paths of glory lead but to the grave."

Mere earthly wealth, fame, and power go for nothing in the end—

"Only the actions of the just
Smell sweet and blossom in the dust."

We next arrive at a large oblong enclosure, shaded by bushes of cypress at each corner, which have spread with such luxuriance as almost to hide the principal inscription from view. It is engraved on a handsome monument that forms the west side of the compartment, and runs as follows :

"Sacred to the memory of the Revd. Thomas Tudor Duncan, M.D., minister of the New Church Parish, Dumfries, who was ordained minister of Applegarth, 12th April 1804 ; inducted to the New Church 27th Nov. 1806 ; and died 20th Feby. 1858, in the 54th year of his ministry and the 82nd year of his age. He was a man of very amiable and upright character, most affectionate and exemplary in all the relations of life. As a scholar he was highly accomplished ; as a Christian he was humble and sincere ; and in the work of the ministry faithful. 'Mark the perfect man, and behold the upright, for the end of that man is peace.'--Ps. xxxvii, 37."

Gentle, refined, warm-hearted, dutiful, and pious, Dr. Duncan's character is well depicted in these lines, as is that of his devoted partner in the following commemorative tribute :

In memory "also of Frances Brooks, his wife, who was born at Everton Hall near Liverpool, 7th November, 1780, and after a life of earnest piety and benevolence, died suddenly at Moat House, in this parish, 28th September, 1837. While in the act of reading the Holy Book, whence she derived her faith and life in Jesus Christ, her Lord and Saviour, she received the summons which called her away to that blessed state in which faith issues in vision and hope in fruition. 'Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord.'—Rev. vii. 15, 16, 17 ; Paraph. viii. 13."

Dr. Duncan belonged to a family from whom not a few clergymen of note have sprung, the most distinguished of them being his brother Dr. Henry Duncan of Ruthwell, the founder of Savings Banks. The present excellent parish minister of Torthorwald, the Rev. Joseph R. Duncan, is a son of the Dumfries divine. With the Duncans are closely allied the M'Murdos, a family who settled in the district more than three centuries ago; from whom arose some of our early trading magnates; who are connected by marriage with the Douglasses, Johnstones, Kirkpatricks, Charterises, and others of the patrician order; and of whose more modern representatives we had occasion to say something when noticing the tombstone of one of them as it appears in another portion of the Churchyard."

To what extent the members of each are still associated in their last earthly abode is shewn by four venerable slabs which the Duncan monument overlooks through its veil of foliage, and which give a memorial pavement to the enclosure; the words on the oldest one taking us back to the days of the Covenant and the Persecution. During a large portion of that troublous period lived "James M'Murdie merchand Burges of Drumfrise," and when he "deceased the 6 day of June 1686,"* James VII. was still busy with his Romanising devices, the Revolution which put an effectual check to them, and brought liberty of conscience to all, not having yet arrived. Locally, 1686 was a very memorable year, inasmuch as by a Government edict the Burgh was prevented from choosing either councillors or magistrates, and in its closing month was, through the same despotic influence, induced to elect a Roman Catholic Provost, in the person of John Maxwell of Barncleugh. A second inscription on the same stone recalls a happier era, when the Burgh was basking under the genial rule of John Crosbie of Holm : it commemorates another of our mercantile fathers, in the words subjoined—" Also, here lyes James Hair, merchant in Dumfries, who deceased the 23 day of November 1709 ; his age, 61." The stone has a carved border displaying the usual emblems of mortality ; which with the antique lettering renders it an interesting archæological study.

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* In April 1695 a Committee of Town Council, Heritors, and Kirk-Session resolved that all who held their seats in St. Michael's Church "by ancient possession without any act of Session or other written evidence" should hold them in future by Acts of Session, and "pay something" for their sittings to the poor—all sessional acts made since 1662 to be null and void. In consequence of this resolution there were numerous applicants for seats, the list of whom furnishes us with the names of many merchants and others, the contemporaries of James M'Murdo, who, after holding church fellowship with him when in life, neighbour him in the grave. The list of merchants includes the following: Robert Richardson, William Richardson, James Veitch, Thomas M'Burnie, James M'Kitterick, John Campbell, Robert Munnell, William Martin, Herbert Dickson, Thomas Wright, John Crocket, David Houstine, James Veitch, Thomas Wright, Adam Henderson, John Shillington, Robert Glessal, Andrew Crosbie, John Sharp, James Mulligan. William Irving, John Jackson, Mathew Wightman, James Mitchell, William Hutchieson, John Herries, Thomas Lockhart, John Corbet, James Bishop, William Gillison, Hugh Hair, John Lawson, and Robert Barton. Application for sittings was made also in the same year (1695) by John Corsane of Milnhole, Mathew Hairstens of Craigs, John Kennan of

Slab number two is of a more modern type. It is in memory of yet another Dumfries merchant, Robert M'Murdo, died 3d July 1786, aged 39 ; of Ann Currie, his spouse, died 21st June 1784, aged 29 ; and their son, William Dick, died at Liverpool 1st June 1828, aged 44. An additional inscription states that " the remains of Janet, relict of Joseph Brooks, Esq., late of Everton, near Liverpool," lie below. She died May 1828, in the 82d year of her age. " Blessed

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Thrievegrange, John Charteris of Bridgmoor, sheriff-depute and commissary, William M'Gown of Ingleston, John Irving of Drumcoltran, John M'Burnie, notary, Isobel Irvine, relict of the deceased Thomas Goldie, notary, Marion Maxwell, relict of the deceased John Corsane of Meiklenox, Helen and Jean Johnston, daughters of the late Provost Johnston, Martin Newal, late bailie, Gabriel Alison of Dunjop, late bailie, William Neilson, dean, William Carmont, treasurer, Agnes Edgar, representing the deceased Bailie Muirhead, Elizabeth M'Kitterick, relict of Stephen Irving, late bailie, John Maxwell, apothecary, John Corbet, apothecary, John Rule, apothecary, William Laurie, writer, John Maxwell, school doctor, heirs of Herbert Cunningham, writer, John Somerville, writer, George Rome, writer, John Lawson of Holm, writer, John M'Naught, writer, Robert Johnston, postmaster, Andrew Hume, clerk of the Custom-Office, James Milligan, surveyor, Richard Paterson, farmer in Netherwood, and Robert Winnie, bookbinder. Many of these names are frequently found in old documents relating to the history of Dumfries, and some of them appear in the memorial records of the present volume.

are the dead who die in the Lord." Resting upon this slab there is a very small older stone, which is thus inscribed: "Here lyes Agnes M'Murday, daughter of the late James M'Murday, who deceased the 31st of Julay 1689, of age 1 year 10 month :" the following intimation being added in a less antique style: "George Henry Duncan, died December 29, aged 6 months."

On the third slab we thus read :

"Under this humble stone lies all that could die of William M'Murdo, merchant in Dumfries, and of his wife, Mary Blacklock; who, after having raised themselves in the admiration and affection of the wise and good a monument more precious than could be erected by human art, were called to heaven; she on the 25th September 1764, and he on the 4th April 1768. Of their numerous offspring the same grave contains the remains of four sons, John, William, George, and Thomas, who died in infancy, and four daughters, Catherine, who died in April 1771, aged 15; Henrietta, who died in July 1775, aged 21; Jean, who died in December 1787, aged 38; Susan, who died in June 1810, aged 60; and near this spot their daughter Elizabeth, who died 10th June 1826, aged 72."

The genealogical record of the M'Murdos, and through them of the Duncans, is carried down through other ramifications by the inscription on the fourth stone, which runs as follows :

"In memory of James Rickarby, late of Jamaica, merchant, who died 11th June 1798, in the 89th year of his age.

As those we love decay, we die in part—
String after string is severed from the heart,
Till loosen'd life at last but breathing lay
Without one pang, is glad to fall away.

Under or near this stone lie the remains of Sarah M'Neill, widow of James M'Murdo of Barbadoes, who died 29th January 1825; and their three daughters who died, Anna Maria in April 1809; Elizabeth Mary in November 1810; and Christian, 30th October 1824. Also of Ann Holst, of that island [Barbadoes], who died 1810."

A headstone within the same compartment commemorates "William, eldest son of William Reynolds of Ketley, in the county of Salop, Esq.," who died at Dumfries, 26th May 1807, before he had reached his seventeenth year, and when residing in Dr. Duncan's family. It is stated that

"Though far removed from home and his relations, he was not without the consolation, sympathy, and affection of friends, to whom he was endeared by his engaging manners and suavity of temper; the fair hopes of future excellence excited by his conduct" causing "his early departure to be most deeply lamented by all who knew him."

From the M'Murdo tree, drawn up by Mr. J. Campbell Gracie, genealogist, Dumfries, we learn that the family gave their name to the lands of Cubbington and Ferdinmakrery, in the parish of Dunscore, charter to them having been granted by the Commendator of Melrose Abbey, to William M'Murdy and his heirs so far back as 25th July 1565 (the year when Mary Queen of Scots married Lord Darnley). John M'Murdo succeeded him. He had two sons—Robert, who died a bachelor; and John, by whom the latter was succeeded 9th June 1620. From this John M'Murdo, second of the name on record, sprang the Dumfries members of the family, some of whose tombstones we have just been noticing. James M'Murdo, John's eldest son, was the next chief of the house; the second son, named also John, entering the Church, and singular to say, becoming minister of Torthorwald, the charge at present occupied by his great great-grandson, the Rev. J. R. Duncan. He married first, Mary Muir of Cassencarry, and thus became connected with the Sharpes of Hoddam (whose magnificent family monument is described in a preceding chapter); and secondly, Alice Charteris, a member of the Amisfield family. He was father of Robert M'Murdo of Drungans, and it was a son of the latter who, when Chamberlain at Drumlanrig, was so creditably associated with the national bard. Both in prose and verse Burns, on various occasions, expressed his sense of the kind services rendered to him by John M'Murdo. Sometime in 1793 the poet inscribed the following lines on a window-pane of the Chamberlain's house:

"Blest be M'Murdo to his latest day!
No envious cloud o'ercast his evening ray—
No wrinkle furrow'd by the hand of care,
Nor ever sorrow add one silver hair.
O may no son the father's honour stain,
Nor ever daughter give the mother pain."

It is gratifying to think that Mr. M'Murdo was as happily situated with his children as his friend the Bard could desire. The Torthorwald minister had also for son the William M'Murdo, merchant, who is commemorated on the third slab. Anne, a daughter of William, born 1745, by marrying in 1770 the Rev. George Duncan, Lochrutton (whose father was of the same name, and minister of the same parish), became the link of connection between the M'Murdos and Duncans. A journal kept by the elder George Duncan regarding the Jacobite occupation of Dumfries supplies some valuable information regarding that exciting incident in our local annals. George Duncan the younger was father of Dr. Thomas T. Duncan, whose epitaph is above quoted, and of Dr. Henry Duncan. William M'Murdo had for son Robert, the Dumfries merchant, who is mentioned on the second slab, and Phillis his daughter was the spouse of James Rickarby, the Jamaica merchant, who is named on the fourth slab, while Sarah M'Neill, who is also mentioned upon it, was married to another of his sons, James, of Barbadoes.

Partly overshadowed by the funereal evergreens of this compartment, stands an altar-stone, inscribed as follows :

"In memory of Mary Burnie, spouse to James Paton, Master of the Hospital of Dumfries. She was a loving wife, an indulgent parent, and a humble Christian. She left this mortal state, and winged her way into eternal day, upon the 25 day of Febr. 1792, in the 67 year of her age. Also James and Ebenezer, their children. Also in memory of James Paton, her husband, who died much regretted the 3d day of April 1795, aged 63 years."

Next to the Duncan monument rises a handsome one in memory of James Kerr, flesher in Dumfries, who died at Dovecot, 5th March, 1864, aged 58, and was interred in Knottyash Churchyard, near Liverpool ; of his youngest son James, died 13th October, 1861, aged 22, who lies buried in the same place ; his daughter Hannah, who died at a younger age, being also commemorated by the inscription.

The family compartment of Mr. William Turner, shipowner, is next arrived at, the chief monument in which commemorates his wife, Bethia Brand Riddick, died 2d June 1842, aged 27. On a slab within the enclosure, appear the names of her aunt, Mary Morison, spouse to John Riddick, merchant, died 11th February, 1793, and of three other members of the family who lie below : Mrs. Turner's father, Robert Riddick, tallow-chandler, proprietor also of a large soap-boiling establishment, the only one in Dumfries, who died in 1821 ; Nancy

Brand, his wife, who died in the same year; and their son John, who, soon after entering upon the management of his father's business, was cut off at the early age of 18. We must not forget to add that Mr. Turner had the honour of being elected Provost of Dumfries in 1864, and that he discharged his official duties with fidelity and success.

In an adjoining plot, that is very tastefully kept, lies Ellen Reid Nicholson, daughter of the late Provost Nicholson, and wife of our enterprising townsman, Mr. David Sloan, coachbuilder, died 17th June, 1870, aged 48; also three of their offspring, all of whom died young, nine summers only having been seen by the eldest child, William.

A worthy shipowner and blacksmith, William Smart, is commemorated by a very neat monument near by, which also bears the name of Mary Smart, his sister; while a slab below records the names of other members of the family: John Smart, bookbinder, died 27th December 1805, aged 38; Margaret Boddon, his wife; John Smart, shipowner, his son, died at 36; James, another son, died at 33, and two infant children; William Boddon, cabinetmaker, father-in-law of the bookbinder, died 10th December 1809, aged 84, with Margaret Charters his spouse, and Margaret Smart, their granddaughter, died at 34.

Adjoining we see the family burial-ground of Archibald Blacklock, surgeon, with his name upon one of the two stones placed in the compartment, also the names of his spouse, Isabella Drinkwater, died 19th July 1865, aged 80, and his youthful daughter, Mary. The other stone commemorates Mary, daughter of James Blacklock, Kirkpatrick-Juxta, died 2d July 1763, aged 30; John Blacklock, merchant, Dumfries, father of Dr. Blacklock, died 7th June 1806, aged 81; and the two wives of the former, Helen Turnbull and Mary Athey. Archibald Blacklock, surgeon, of the Royal Navy, died 6th January 1875, aged 84. He served abroad, on the other side of the Atlantic, while quite a youth, and was present at the siege of New Orleans and other conflicts of the war that was then raging. After the termination of hostilities, he withdrew from the Navy to settle down in his native place, Dumfries, where he had an extensive practice, which he secured not less by his genial disposition and attractive manners than by his professional skill. When cholera visited the Burgh in 1832 his services were invaluable; and it was chiefly at his instance that the Board of Health, of which he was a most efficient member, were led to adopt a system of house-to-house visitation, in order to restrict the sweep of the epidemic. With the origin of the Crichton Institution for lunatics, and with some important experiments on the influence of galvanism, the deceased was prominently associated; and the leading part taken by him in obtaining a cast of Burns's cranium for a phrenological purpose, with his report regarding it, is so generally known that we do not need to dilate upon this incident in his life. Dr. Blacklock had a well-stored mind, was full of anecdote, and nothing delighted him more than to indulge in reminiscences of other years, whether these related to his adventures abroad or the incidents and contemporaries of his maturer years at home—his great observing powers and retentive memory enabling him to reproduce the past with wonderful fidelity and effect. Amiable in private life, he acted an exemplary part in every domestic and social relationship.

Quite recently an inscription has been engraved upon the first of these stones, below the names of Dr. and Mrs. Blacklock, in memory of their son as follows:

"Ambrose Blacklock, Deputy Inspector-General of Hospitals, H.M.I.S., son of the above, who died at Chittoor, 11th Feb. 1873, aged 56, while on a tour of inspection, and was interred there. By the unanimous desire of his brother medical officers, and in accordance with public feeling his remains were brought down to Madras, and were reinterred with every mark of respect, and amid many tokens of regret in the London Mission Cemetery at Pursewaukum on the evening of Saturday, 22d February, where a handsome memorial-stone was afterwards erected by his numerous friends."

Dr. Ambrose Blacklock spent most of his days in India, where he held various professional appointments under the Government, but before leaving Dumfries he published a valuable Treatise on Sheep, which passed through several editions. His literary attainments were of a superior order, in other respects he was very accomplished, and he acquired merited fame as a physician. Among other medical theories promulgated by him was one relating to small-pox and cholera. He held that persons who had suffered from the first of these diseases were rarely if ever attacked by the second : his experience in India, where he had attended thousands of cholera patients, led him to this conclusion, and he maintained his thesis with great ingenuity and skill. Dr. Blacklock officiated in Madras Medical College, first as Professor of Surgery and then as Professor of Medicine during a period of sixteen years. At the time of his death he was Deputy Inspector-General of the Indian Medical Department, and it was while making one of his periodical visitations as such that he was cut off by enteritis at Chittoor, when he had reached his 56th year. He was buried at Madras beside the remains of his wife, Mary Kemp, who had predeceased him. A memorial exists which embodies in a congenial substance the "golden opinions" entertained towards the gifted Professor by those who, next to his own family, knew him best. This is a magnificent gold medal bearing his portrait in relief on one side, and on the other the following words :

"Presented, with the sanction of Government, to the most deserving clinical student of the Madras Medical College, by 89 subscribers, in grateful and affectionate memory of Ambrose Blacklock, Deputy Inspector-General of Hospitals, Madras Medical Service, who died at Chittoor on the 11th February 1873."

The money subscribed for the memorial has been deposited with the Government, so as to secure a fresh medal being struck off annually for competition among the students.

A gallant member of a good old Wigtownshire family has his name and deeds recorded on a graceful monument, which is thus inscribed :

"Sacred to the memory of Major William Cannon, who died at Corberry Place on the 15th November 1851, aged 69 years, youngest son of the late John Cannon, Esq. of Balochan, Galloway. Major Cannon served with distinction in the Old 94th Regiment during the Peninsular War, from 1808 to 1818, for which he received the war medal and 7 clasps. He again served in the 97th Regiment, from 1824 to 1842, when he retired from the service."

On an adjacent altar-stone we read the names of William Paton, writer, died 1st September 1800, aged 36, and his spouse, Janet Caird, five of their children, including Andrew, who died at 34, and John, a baker, died 19th September 1832, aged 67. Within an enclosure not far distant another member of the legal profession is mentioned on one of the two slabs by which it is overlaid. The inscriptions commemorate Leonard Smith of Stopford, died 28th March 1802, his spouse, Henrietta Beveridge, with several of their children; also John Smith, writer, Kirkcudbright, died at Gatehouse-of-Fleet, 28th June 1825, aged 75, and his daughter Jane, who died at Corberry.

As already noticed, many leading "cordwainers" lie in this section; and we observe the name of another worthy brother of the craft, James M'Lellan, on a handsome table-stone near by. He died 31st May 1825, aged 60. The monument commemorates also Ann Young, his wife; Henrietta, their daughter, who died at a youthful age; their son, James, a bookseller, died 10th April 1839, aged 27; another son, Alexander William Young, collector of Inland Revenue, Galway Collection, a most intelligent gentleman, who died at Galway, 17th January 1859, aged 54; and a third son, George, long an extensive baker and grain-dealer in Dumfries, who spent the autumn of his years at Noblehill Cottage, universally respected, and died there 22d September 1873, aged 66, bequeathing a legacy of £1000 to the funds of Moorheads' Hospital.

CHAPTER XIX.

SECOND INTERIOR SECTION (CONTINUED).

IN the early chapters of these Memorials, relating mainly to an old class of monuments, Latin inscriptions frequently occur ; but about seventy years ago the fashion changed ; as a proof of which we rarely light upon any epitaph in that language of a modern date. The only Latin one of the present century that we have yet seen appears upon a plain headstone in this section, and runs thus :

"Nicholam filiam et Jacobum filium
Gemmas pulcherrimas
Pruina intempestiva correptas
Gul : Tennant
Animo dolore fracto
At Dei fiducia infracta
Simul terræ commisit
VII. Id : Decembris 1835.
Reflorescent.
Iterum Anno 1845 duos præterea
Liberos cita morte ademptos :
Denique Anno 1846 ætatis 35°
bene dilectam Nicholam M. Tennant matrem
Pietate pudore et omnibus
quæ uxorem ornant
virtutibus eximie præditam
mærens maritus
in Sepulchro
condidit."

This epitaph may be thus translated :

Here rest the remains of Nicholas and James, two lovely buds nipt by death's untimely frost, children of William Tennant. Heart-broken by grief, but with unshaken trust in God, he committed them to the dust together on the 7th of December 1835.

They will bloom again.

Also, two children who died suddenly in the year 1845.

Here also, in the year 1846, in her 35th year, their much-loved mother, Nicholas M. Tennant, was interred by her sorrowing husband. She was richly endued with piety, modesty, and all the virtues that adorn a wife.

Upon an oblong solid-looking block of older date, which wears a dismal, neglected aspect, though jealously guarded by iron stanchions, appear the following classical inscriptions, which we had great difficulty in deciphering :—On the south side :

"Hic condita jacent ossa Jacobi Mitchell hujus
Burgi Mercatoris et Agnessæ
Rodgerson conjugis ipsius dilectissimæ.
Hic ad viridem senectutem perductus fatis cessit
die tertio Aprilis anno
MDCCXIX.
Illa provecta ætate obiit decimo tertio Januarii
anni ejusdem
Illa prius moritur. Viduam producere vitam
Tentat adhuc conjux. Vivere taedet. Obit."

In English:

Here lie buried the ashes of James Mitchell, Merchant in this town, and of Agnes Rodgerson his beloved wife. Having attained a green old age, he departed this life on the 3d of April 1719; she died on the 13th of January in the same year, at an advanced age.

She dies the earlier; yet awhile he tries
Life's lonely lot; but soon, life-weary, dies.

The inscription on the north side is:

"Monumentum hoc qualecumque pietatis ergo Robertus Mitchell, M.D., filius superstes extrui curavit, decimo quarto lustro suæ ætatis, æræ Christianæ MDCCLXI."

Translation:

Their surviving son, Robert Mitchell, M.D., erected this monument, such as it is, as a tribute of affection, in the fourteenth lustre of his life (*i.e.*, between his 65th and 70th year), in the year of the Christian era, 1761."

Almost invisible itself, an obscure slab, bearing the relics of an inscription, reminds us of a sightless man, who acquired no small distinction as a poet. Below that stone, situated near the tomb of Dr. Mitchell, lies the father of Dr. Thomas Blacklock, by whom it bears to have been "erected;" and though it now lies flat upon the ground, and is much worn by the feet of passengers, it was no doubt furnished with suitable supports when set up at first. The epitaph, written by the blind poet, runs, as near as we can decipher, in the following style:

"Here lyes all that could perish of John Blacklock, bricklayer, born in Cumberland, married at London, settled for a considerable time in Dumfries. Long pursued by dire misfortune, and at last, in an instant, he was received to the enjoyment of his Creator, A.D. MDCCXL.

Here drop, Benevolence, thy cordial tear!
A friend of human kind reposes here;
A mind content itself and God to know;
A heart with ev'ry virtue form'd to glow;
A soul superior to each mean disguise;
Truth's sacred voice, and pity's melting eyes.

Beneath each pressure uniformly great;
In life untainted, unsurprised by fate;
His God beheld his suffering worth sincere,
And bade it shine in Heaven, its genuine sphere!

Erected by Thomas Blacklock, his son, [Professor] of Philosophy."

A version of the epitaph appears in Dr. Blacklock's published works,* which differs considerably from the lines just quoted. It is in the following terms:

"Here drop, Benevolence, thy sacred tear:
A friend of human kind reposes here;
A man content himself and God to know;
A heart with every virtue form'd to glow;
Beneath each pressure uniformly great;
In life untainted, unsurprised by fate.
Such, though obscured by various ills, he shone;
Consol'd his neighbour's woes, and bore his own.
Heav'n saw, and snatch'd from fortune's rage its prey,
To share the triumphs of eternal day."

The subject of this affecting tribute was not unworthy of it. He resided for a while at Annan, where in 1721 the future poet was born; and on the son losing his sight by small-pox, the father spent much time in reading and conversing with him, so that young Blacklock became at an early age well conversant with British literature; and in his twelfth year he began that courtship of the muses which he prosecuted through life. Before he was quite nineteen the fatal accident, caused by the fall of a malt-kiln, which is hinted at in the epitaph, deprived him of the best of parents, and left him poor and helpless.

"This loss, heavy to any one at that early age, would have been, however, to a young man possessing the ordinary means of support and the ordinary advantages of education comparatively light; but to him—thus suddenly deprived of that support on which his youth had leaned—destitute almost of any resource which industry affords to those who have the blessings of sight, with a body feeble and delicate from nature, and a mind congenially susceptible, it was not surprising that this blow was doubly severe, and threw on his spirits that despondent gloom to which he then gave way in the following pathetic lines, and which sometimes overclouded them in the subsequent period of his life:

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* Quarto edition of Poems, 1793, p. 152.

'Dejecting prospect! Soon the hapless hour
May come; perhaps this moment it impends,
Which drives me forth to penury and cold,
Naked, and beat by all the storms of heav'n,
Friendless and guideless, to explore my way,
Till on cold earth this poor unshelter'd head
Reclining, vainly from the ruthless blast
Respite I beg, and in the shock expire.' "*

Quite unexpectedly, however, a friend interposed, in the person of Dr. Stevenson, an Edinburgh physician, who, having been much struck with some of Blacklock's juvenile effusions, invited him to the city, and at considerable expense educated him for the ministry. How he, though blind, received a Crown presentation to the parish of Kirkcudbright, and was after a brief period induced to give up his charge, and how he eventually settled down in Edinburgh to a scholastic and literary life, must be well known to our readers generally. When Burns visited the Scottish metropolis, Dr. Blacklock received him with open arms, and we need scarcely say that his blind friend was one of the first to descry the peerless genius of the national bard; and that at his instance Burns abandoned his design of emigrating to Jamaica, and resolved to remain in the old country. The "Epistle to Dr. Blacklock," dated at Ellisland, 21st October 1789, and beginning "Wow, but your letter made me vauntie," is rightly deemed one of the best effusions of the kind ever produced by Burns. Dr. Johnson visited Blacklock in 1773, and says he "looked on him with reverence;" Heron speaks of him as "an angel upon earth;" and Lockhart eloquently remarks: "The writings of Blacklock are forgotten; but the memory of his virtues will not pass away till mankind shall have ceased to sympathise with the misfortunes of genius and to appreciate the poetry of Burns." Considerations such as these invest with special interest the humble memorial product of Dr. Blacklock's filial love and the poetical lines which give it expression, flowing, as they must have done, gushing and burning from his heart and brain.

Though frequent reference has already been made in these pages to the Silver Gun contest, we must notice it at greater length in connection with the tombstone of Robert Thomson, who was Convener of the Trades when their shooting for the little trophy formed the subject of John Mayne's celebrated poem. After being overlaid by a mass of rubbish for fully a quarter of a century, the memorial now arrived at—a flat slab—was brought to light anew. It records the death of the renowned Convener, which occurred 19th December 1799, when he had reached the ripe age of 84. By trade a hammerman, he was every way worthy of his social position as Chief of the Incorporated Seven, and as taking rank at the Town Council board next to the Provost. He had, says Mayne, "a very graceful exterior, to which his silver locks gave an air of the most venerable dignity. His character also was excellent; and what endeared him to young people, his files and forge were always welcome to the boys who resorted thither to repair the implements of their pastime—an indulgence which in early life the author of these verses often experienced, and still gratefully remembers."

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* Memoir prefixed to Poems.

Kingholm Merse was usually the scene of the shooting; but on this occasion—time, the Royal birth-day, 4th of June 1777, "when George the Third was king"—the saturnalia was held at Maidenbower Craigs, near Dumfries, a series of rocks "wildly but beautifully variegated, with towering perpendicular precipices to the north-east, yet cultivated to the very summit on the south-west, and sloping with a gentle declivity to the river Nith." Fortunately for the occasion the weather was exceedingly fine. Convener Thomson, as might have been looked for, receives frequent notice from the laureate of the competition. As the corporations passed along, we are told, "Echo's self was drown'd with acclamations."

"Their steps to martial airs agreeing,
And a' the Seven Trades' colours fleeing,
Bent for the Craigs, O! weel worth seeing!
They hy'd awa';
Their bauld Convener proud o' being
The chief owre a'.

Attended by his body-guard,
He stepp'd wi' gracefulness unpair'd!
Straight as the poplar on the swaird,
And strong as Sampson,
Nae ee could look without regard
On Robin Tamson.

His craft, the Blacksmiths, first ava,
Led the procession, twa and twa;
The Squaremen follow'd i' the raw,
And syne the Weavers,
The Taylors, Souters, Skinners a',
And Marrow-cleavers."

Of the hundreds who took part in the pageant and the thousands who looked on, joining in the exuberant revelry which it occasioned, not a single one survives, and a large proportion of them lie mouldering, like their chief, in the Cemetery of St. Michael's, though we can only specify the particular spots occupied by a few besides the Convener who are commemorated by the poet as figuring in the festival of 1777; these being "Roby Kemp," wright, William M'Ghie, painter, Archibald Malcolm, Town-clerk, Bailie Clark, "Johnnie Gas," Deacon Ronald, Dr. Mutter, and one or two others. The winner of the trinket, "William M'Nish, a taylor slee," sleeps untrophied in the sepulchre, but his name lives in the deathless verse of John Mayne, who does his very best to magnify the meteoric hero of the day.

"His winsome wife, wha lang had miss'd him,
Press'd through the crowd, caress'd and kiss'd him.
Less furthy dames (wha cou'd resist them?)
Th' example take;
And some held up his bairns and bless'd them
For daddy's sake!"

As the marksmen returned from Craigs,

"Close by Convener Tamson's side
The Victor march' wi' stately stride."

Arrived at the Burgh, the usual street rejoicings and in-door festivities took place, the Convener first presiding at the Trades' banquet, and then slipping away to take his seat "at the Town's-ha, amang the Bailies." Then one whose resting-place we have yet to visit,

"Grave Dr. Mutter,
Wi' pious care,
And a' the zeal that grace could utter,
Preferr'd this prayer:

'O Thou! by whose resistless law
Kings, kingdoms, empires, stand or fa',
Watch owre this realm; bless great and sma';
Keep, keep us free,
And fill our hearts wi' rev'rend awe
For truth and—Thee.'"

While acting his part worthily on the field of contest and at the social board, the Convener of the Crafts realised the force of Burns's axiom,

"To make a happy fireside clime to weans and wife,
That's the true pathos and sublime of human life;"

and the closing verses relating to him consort better with the solemnising scenery of the Burial-ground than those that describe the exciting contest in which he mingled, and the hilarious revel with which it was crowned:

"Hame, as the gloamin' nearer draws,
Convener Tamson slips his wa's,
Where wife and weans, in a' their braws
And best complexion,
Crown the last transports of applause
Wi' sweet affection!

Jocosely, i' the gardy chair,
He tells the day's adventures there;
Syne, ere the bairns to bed repair,
For mercies giv'n
His gratefu' thoughts, in fervent pray'r,
Ascend to Heaven.

Like his our closing strain shall be.
May Scotland, happy, brave, and free,
Aye flourish like th' unfading tree!
And may Dumfries
In a' her revelry and glee
Blend love and peace!"

The names of Convener Thomson's children, the "bairns" of the poet's effusion, Robert, Walter, Thomas, and Agnes, appear on the memorial-stone, which lies in the same neglected condition as the slab which commemorates the poet Blacklock's father. We should like very much to see them both restored.

Memorial stones of other freemen who lived under the old Corporation system continue to be met with. William Crosbie, "Deacon-Convener," is among the number. Chief of all the Craftsmen at a time when his own trade, the Tailors, numbered 85, he on 4th June 1766, presided at the shooting for the Silver Gun. His death occurred 11th December 1775, age 55. With him rest his two wives, Elizabeth Potter and Mary Swan, and several of his children. The last competition for King James's gift took place in a field on the Bankend Road, October 1831, when it was carried off by Deacon Alexander Johnston, also a tailor, in memory of whom a graceful pillar has been reared. The worthy Deacon, as custodier of the trophy, carried it in a great procession at the Dumfries celebration of the Burns's Centenary in 1859. He died 31st December 1862, aged 79. His name and that of his spouse, Mary Charteris, appear on the south side of the monument. On the east side there is an inscription in memory of their son Joseph, an accomplished member of the legal profession, who, as a solicitor before the Supreme Courts, Edinburgh, overtaxed himself and died prematurely 25th February 1865. The epitaph closes thus: "Blessed to depart and be with Christ."

"Thou sleeping clay, sleep on in death,
Mortality the soul's undress
One day to wake immortal form
On glorious resurrection morn."

Margaret N. Johnston, a daughter, who died 25th December 1873, is commemorated on the north side, and lies "interred in Highgate Cemetery, square 48, grave 19,763." A headstone within the enclosure is dedicated to Joseph Johnston (the Deacon's father, we presume), who died 1810, aged 70, and to his three wives, one of the very few threefold marriages we have yet seen recorded in the literature of St. Michael's. His first spouse was Margaret Hughes of Calpepper, Staffordshire, died 26th July 1773, aged 29; second, Margaret Newall, died 1st April 1801, aged 49; third, Mary Smith, who died eight years after her husband, at the age of 72. Nine children of Joseph Johnston, by his second wife, are named on another little headstone.

Among the other workmen who lie underneath this ground, where no "device nor work is found," are Thomas Orr, Deacon of the Shoemakers, died 27th June 1804, aged 37, with Janet Glassells, his spouse; Thomas Reid, cabinetmaker, Deacon of the Squaremen, died 27th April, aged 55 with James, his son, died at 25, an infant child, another son, however, Thomas, receiving burial in the sea, he having died 4th August 1833, at the age of 20, when sailing to India on board the Protector; John Ewing, a patriarchal Crispinite, over whose head 85 years rolled before his last end was reached, and his earthly all had to be abandoned on 5th April 1827, soon after which he rejoined his wedded partner, Mary Glover, who predeceased him; Richard Bendall, flax-dresser, died 31st March 1819, aged 74, with his spouse Mary, a sister, we believe, of the John Ewing aforesaid; James Kerr, also a shoemaker, died 12th March 1805, aged 66, with Henrietta Kerr, his spouse, and their sons, William, who died at 21, and Robert, of the 46th Foot Regiment, died at Martinica at 33; Robert Wilson, a member of the same craft, died 1st May 1819, aged 77, with his wife, Ann M'Quhae, and their two infant children; Francis Wilson, another cordwainer, died 28th April 1808, aged 60, with Jean Wilson, his wife, their children, Agnes died at 4 and William at 37; also Jane Grieve, wife of George Irving, shoemaker, died 1st December 1855, aged 51; Peter Anderson, also a shoemaker, died of cholera, 9th October 1832, aged 57; and two other members of the same trade, James Fergusson, died 7th September 1837, aged 58, with Janet Roddick, his spouse, and five of their youthful children; James Todd died 2d October 1868, aged 67, with Charlotte Crombie, his wife (sister of Bailie Crombie), and their daughter Elizabeth, died at 40, in Dundee.

The list also includes John Crosbie, saddler, died 22d August 1843, aged 86, with Mary Johnston, his spouse; Robert Johnston, gunmaker, died 7th December 1832, aged 61, with Mary Scott, his wife; also, two daughters of William Johnston, printer, Mary Scott and Agnes Margaret, both of whom died young; John Jackson, weaver, who wrought at the loom when his craft in the Burgh numbered 59, and who doubtless felt that his life had passed rapidly, like the movements of the shuttle, when it was cut short April 10th 1792, aged 39; William Geddes, another of the same trade, whose web of life was lengthened out to more than threescore years and ten, his death occurring at Trench, 29th December 1853, with Elizabeth Geddes, his spouse; Robert Brand, blacksmith, the spark of life blown out 5th July 1817, aged 63, and of whom it is said, in lines from *Gray's Elegy* (slightly altered), "No further seek his merits to disclose, nor draw his frailties from their last abode;" also James Muir, another hammerman (his son-in-law?), died 9th February 1826, aged 54, with Margaret Brand, his spouse, and three of their children—Robert, died at 6, Jane at 17, and a second Robert at 24; Samuel Thomson, nailer, died 28th September 1832, aged 79, with Mary Grierson, his spouse; Robert Burgess, plasterer, died 13th January 1814, aged 78, with Margaret Stott, his wife, and four of their infant children; John Hyslop, joiner, died 16th February 1762, aged 57, with Margaret Paine, his wife; James Goldie, bricklayer, died 30th June 1803, aged 67, with Agnes Blackstock, his spouse, their daughter Agnes, and her husband, Thomas Hood, gardener, died 19th January 1818, aged 65; David Wood, iron-turner, died 18th July 1861, aged 49; Margaret Robertson, wife of Thomas Crosbie, house carpenter, died 16th June 1816, aged 40, with two of their young children, their son-in-law, George M'Lachlan, baker, died 10th September 1824, aged 22, and his youthful son, George; Agnes Irving Renwick, wife of Thomas Russell, nailer, 26th January 1847, aged 42, with Matthew, son of Matthew Russell, nailer, aged 21; Catherine, eldest daughter of Robert Neilson, house painter, Maxwelltown, died 18th February 1865 (age not given), also his niece, Sarah Catherine Neilson Easton, aged 8.

Alternating with the spots occupied by these "producers of wealth," we find (to use still further the language of political economy) the graves of sundry "wealth distributors," or, in other words, men who handled weights and measures, and have themselves been weighed in the balances that are ever just and true. These include William Gracie, died 16th August 1778, aged 50, with three of his youthful progeny; Francis Reid, died 10th April 1820, aged 84, his wife, Helen Dougan, with their son, James, aged 15, lying beside him; William Gibson, died 13th April 1828, aged 62, with Ann

Tinning, his wife, three infants, and five other children—Thomas, aged 14, Robert 21, William 17, John 24, and Jessie 59; James Byres, died 29th December 1847, aged 57, with Catherine Robison, his spouse, and their daughter Mary, who died at 15; James Miller, died 6th October 1784, aged 33; a second James Miller, died 16th August 1850, aged 77, with Jane Nicholson, his spouse, and several of their children; Andrew Fleming, Maxwelltown, died 9th June 1851, aged 74, with Janet Warfeill, his wife, and "Mrs Elizabeth Fleming," his daughter; William Smith, whose name appears on a stately upright stone, died 8th July 1846, aged 77, also that of Margaret Stuart, his wife, the monument commemorating also six of their children, including Robert Thomson, who died at Cheltenham, aged 39, and Thomas, long a leading house painter in the Burgh, who died 9th April 1862, aged 51; John Miller, died 16th August 1850, aged 77, with Janet Nicholson, his spouse, and five of their progeny, three of whom were infants, James and Robert "died in manhood," and Frances, daughter of Samuel Miller, died 8th June 1875, aged 73.

Under another table-stone lies Nichol Shaw, merchant, died 25th July, 1808, aged 75, on whom the following eulogium is pronounced: "Upright and honest in all his actions; compassionate and charitable; a most affectionate husband and steady friend; he exemplified in his life and death the character of a sincere and pious Christian." The name of Margaret Pinkstone, his spouse, is appended without any meed of praise, though it would be wrong to infer on that account that she was not perfectly worthy of such a partner.

In this connection we may notice, perhaps, a tall, unique, pointed headstone bearing the name of Robert M'Millan, died 9th August 1799, aged 50; and an altar-stone, to which it is affixed, in memory of his wife, Margaret Donaldson, their son John, died at Fayetteville, North Carolina, 7th October 1820, aged 51, and daughters Elizabeth and Mary, whose ages are not specified. Near it stands another tabular monument in memory of Adam Brown, stamp-office clerk, died 16th September 1813, aged 58; Ann Black, his spouse;

and several of their offspring, including Patrick Maxwell, died at 28, and Annie at 79.

John Carrick, Greenbrae, who was nearly a nonogenarian, lies beneath an adjoining table-stone, died 18th February 1835, with Janet Geddes, his spouse ; also his son-in-law, James Murray, who died when he was fourscore years and three, 27th February 1865, with Janet Carrick, his spouse, and three of their offspring, including John, who died at 13.

A stone of tabular form rises near by, as a tribute from William and Peter M'Kie, of Philadelphia, North America, "to an affectionate and indulgent father," James M'Kie, died 9th May 1789, aged 64 ; Agnes Wilson, his wife, and several of their children, being also named in the inscription.

On an adjoining table monument appear a number of names, some of which were long familiar in the Burgh and neighbourhood : Andrew Clark, brewer, Maxwelltown, died 7th June 1820, aged 68 ; Margaret Bell, his spouse ; Jane Clark, their daughter, wife of James Bendal, grocer, the latter of whom will be well remembered by many as a warm hearted and intelligent gentleman ; he is mentioned in the inscription as having died 3d February 1858, aged 75 ; James Bendal, wine merchant, their son, died 2d May 1862, aged 35 ; also Margaret Allan Thomson, relict of Dugald M'Dougall, late merchant in Dumfries, and granddaughter of the above Andrew Clark, died 12th July 1866, aged 54.

On the marble tablet of a neat monument we read the name of James Turner, draper, a man of virtue and intelligence, died 23d November 1870, aged 56 ; four of his children, including James, aged 22, are also named in the inscription.

A worthy cloth merchant and his wife, Jean Black (sister of Adam Black, gardener), who outlived her husband many years, are commemorated by a table-stone thus inscribed :

> "In memory of Robert Menzies, who died the 2d March 1836, aged 72 years. From industry and perseverance in his business he raised himself to a comfortable independence. He was a kind friend to the poor, who have reason to mourn his loss, and to whom he administered relief without ostentation. He was extensively known and respected, and his character and benevolent deeds will be long gratefully remembered."

When passing along, some traces of eighteenth century merchants are obtained in addition to those already specified : "Here lyes William Robertson, merchant in Dumfries, who departed this life the 5th of January 1723, aged 63 years." So we read on a venerable memorial-stone of tabular form. The deceased, we may assume, had opened shop before the Union with England, and would be troubled for his wares, if not for his personal safety, when in "Mar's-year," Viscount Kenmure threatened to sack the Burgh. In what sort of goods did he traffic? If in the grocery line, which was most likely the case, he may possibly have dispensed to the lieges some of the new fragrant Chinese herb which first reached this quarter about a hundred and sixty years ago. He would doubtless deal in tobacco, which was extensively smoked long before he became familiar with weights and measures, though the "weed," in its granulated form had not yet supplied "pleasure for a nose divine." Wines, oils, spices of many kinds, sugar for rum punch, if not also for tea, and possibly the rum itself, together with divers products of the farm and dairy, would also, we may be sure, figure among his wares. Mr. Robertson's spouse, Margaret Storey, "daur. to Thos. Storey of Howend," is mentioned on the monument; also, John Robertson, their son, who followed his father's occupation, died 18th May 1774, aged 70.

On the verge of the walk which runs eastward of this section, lies a merchant who was a contemporary of the above—Joseph Miller, died 20th August 1736, aged 87, with his wife, Alice Johnston, below a flat stone which was once ornate with the rueful emblems of mortality, but these, abraded by the feet of travellers, have nearly disappeared : the sand glass has all but vanished, the cross bones are barely visible, and the head of the destroyer has ceased to be grisly : the sight thus revealed reminding us that the antitype of these things is also doomed to perish : "When this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory. O Death, where is thy sting, O Grave, where is thy victory."

The names in the foregoing list of tradesmen appear chiefly on headstones and those of the merchants on tables. A few headstones remain to be noticed, these commemorating: Andrew Wilson, sergeant, Dumfriesshire Militia, died 19th May 1817, aged 41 ; Annie Wilson, spouse of James Wadeson, died 14th September 1854, aged 28 ; John Wilson, died 16th December 1865, aged 72, with Mary Wells, his spouse ; Mary Johnston, daughter of William Darling, portioner, West Reston, Berwickshire, died 8th July 1828, aged 17 ; Agnes Hutchison, wife of Robert Wilson, died 29th October 1774, aged 33 ; Anne Friers, spouse of James Archbold, died 23d March 1829, aged 34 ; Thomas Sutcliffe, Halifax, died 30th January 1837, aged 63 ; John Chesney, harbour-master, died 21st September 1846, aged 72, with his son James, mariner, died at 26 ; James Savage, with a cross engraved above the name to indicate that he was a Roman Catholic, died 20th May 1848, aged 67, with Isabella, his wife, and their youthful daughter Isabella ; Grace Meikle, wife of Alexander Barry, carver and gilder, died 6th June 1871, aged 59, with three infant children ; Benjamin Rogerson, died 7th April 1838, aged 53, with his offspring—William, died when 19, John, at St. Vincent, when 21, and two who died in infancy ; four children of James Carruthers, William died at 19, Jane at 16, Francis, and Joseph, whose ages are not recorded.

CHAPTER XX.

SECOND INTERIOR SECTION—CONCLUDED.

WE are reminded of the old connection between Dumfries and the Annandale Johnstones by reading, on a high-walled enclosure, the words, "Burial Place of the Family of Johnstone of Corehead." Doubtless some members of this famous Border family lie within; but we learn from a good authority that there are no inscriptions in the interior, and if there be memorial slabs on the floor, they are so covered over with rubbish and thorns as to be invisible. When the Jacobite rebels, under Lord Kenmure, bore down menacingly upon Dumfries, William Johnstone, first Marquis of Annandale, acting as Lord-Lieutenant of the County, assisted the magistrates in defending the Burgh; and he had for a deputy his near kinsman, Johnstone of Corehead. The present representative of the family is Colonel Butler-Johnstone, formerly of the Scottish Borderers, and many years member of Parliament for Canterbury.

We have already noticed the name of Crombie in connection with the Dumfries mason trade, and we find it repeated on three monuments which neighbour each other. The oldest of these is an altar-stone devoted to Alexander Crombie, the first of the family who settled in the Burgh, and who must have begun to ply mallet and chisel more than a hundred and fifty years ago, seeing that he died 27th December 1785, aged 79. A native of Haddingtonshire, he was engaged as a young man to work at Tinwald House, and before many years elapsed he became one of the leading builders in the locality, drawing from the Castledykes Quarry, of which he was tacksman, the rough material for executing the works in town and country with which he was entrusted. Mr. Crombie was employed by Convener Harley, contractor for Moorheads' Hospital, to supply the mason work of the building in 1752, and another of his extensive undertakings was the erection, about 1770, of the Butcher Market with its abattoir (transformed to the New Markets in 1834). His wife, Elizabeth Murray, is also named upon the monument.

Very handsome structures of Gothic design rise in memory of their son and grandson, both extensive builders in their day ; one of these stones, fronting to the east, being thus inscribed :

"Sacred to the memory of Alexander Crombie, builder, Dumfries, died 31st of May 1828, aged 71 years. Honest, upright, true, and possessed of rare talents and skill, he enjoyed the love and respect of family, friends, and society. Also Charlotte Watson, his wife, who died 8th May 1817, aged 53 years ; also Alexander, who died in 1792, Charlotte in 1795, both in infancy, Elizabeth in 1811, aged 24 years, Mary, 26th January 1839, aged 50 years, son and daughters of the above ; and of William Miller Crombie, their eldest son, who died 15th March 1853, aged 63 years."

Mrs. Crombie was the sister of Thomas Watson, mason, whose tombstone has been already noticed.

Among other stately mansions built by Alexander Crombie was Dalswinton, which overlooks the loch where steam-navigation was cradled and the scenery in which Allan Cunningham, as he himself tells us, composed his earliest effusions. During the last thirty years of his life, however, Mr. Crombie was much more occupied with constructing memorials for the dead than domiciles for the living, his principal workshop being St. Michael's Churchyard. "In carving and lettering (says the *Courier*) he was quite a professional, and it is not too much to say that his genius and taste raised the art he practised in the South of Scotland. Not a few of those who were trained by Mr. Crombie, and the profession to a man, would deeply regret if he who had planned so many monuments for others should remain undistinguished by one himself. But as he left a son who assisted, and now succeeds him, we may conclude, in the emphatic language of Blair,

"That soon some trusty brother of the trade
Will do for him what he has done for thousands."

One of the fine monuments we have just been visiting bears witness to the correctness of this anticipation.

The companion monument which fronts to the north commemorates a man of much business enterprise and public spirit—Bailie Crombie. As the inscription upon it tells, he was a leading promoter of the greatest sanitary boon ever conferred upon the Burgh ; and we may fairly add that he was popular and efficient as a councillor and magistrate. The epitaph is in these terms :

> "Sacred to the memory of Andrew Crombie, builder in Dumfries, who died 9th January 1855, aged 56 years. Esteemed in the private circle and respected in public, his name is enrolled in the list of those worthy citizens who accomplished the introduction of pure water to the town ; also of Mary Todd, his beloved wife, who died 9th February 1849, aged 46 years."

Four children—Charlotte, Alexander, William, and Andrew—all of whom died young, are included in the inscription.

Besides these three stones rises a neat monument, which reminds us of the fearful cholera period, commemorating as it does an affectionate married pair who were cut off by the epidemic at the same age, 29, and within a few days of each other. These were George Lorimer, cabinetmaker, who died on the 4th October 1832, and Christina, daughter of the second Alexander Crombie, who died on the 8th October 1832.

For at least four generations the Crombies have by hand and head work done much to fashion the masonic physiognomy of the Queen of the South. Bailie Crombie's grandfather, Alexander, began the work, and the nephew and grand-nephew of the former carry on at present an extensive business as Alexander Crombie & Son, architects, Dumfries.

The memory of Helen Cairns, spouse of William Martin, teacher, is preserved by a small headstone, which bears upon it also the names of their two sons, William died at 5 and John at 10 ; but no mention is made in the inscription of the worthy preceptor himself, who died 25th September 1875, aged 65. In a newspaper notice of his death it was truly said : "He cherished a just pride in his profession, and made the drudgery inseparable from it pleasurable by the freshness and enthusiasm which he brought to bear on his work. Many of the qualities which go to make a successful teacher were possessed by him in a high degree. His mind was well stored with general information; and the lessons of the school, prescribed from well-selected class-books, were amplified by his oral exposition, and rendered simple and interesting by his method of illustration—a method which reached the mind of the pupil not by the ear only but also by the eye. Intelligent and scholarly, he was also resolute; and the firmness with which he conducted his school made it a model of academic discipline." Mrs. Martin died 23d May 1838, aged 31.

Several tombstone reminders of our High School have already been noticed; other two rise up in this section, both of them graceful monuments of distinguished masters of that distinguished seminary. One of them, fronting north, bears the following inscription:

"Sacred to the memory of Thomas White, a profound and origina mathematician, who taught in the Dumfries Academy forty years, and instructed hundreds who revere his memory. In all the relations of private life, as a husband, father, and friend, Mr. White was most exemplary. He died 1st June 1825, in the 67th year of his age. Erected by attached friends and pupils to commemorate the esteem in which the deceased was held."

We understand that Mr. White thoroughly merited the eulogium thus passed upon him. The deceased enriched his favourite science with some discoveries and new illustrations, especially in the department of mathematical analysis. These he embodied in a series of papers which attracted considerable notice at the time, and for which he received a vote of thanks from the Board of Longitude. Mr. White was a native of Hexham, Northumberland. He was succeeded by another competent teacher, Mr. William Armstrong, whose memory is well preserved by the Academy bursaries which he founded—one £18 in value, another £15, and several others of £12 each. Mr. Munn, a mathematician of high repute, succeeded Mr. Armstrong; and on the former receiving an appointment in Edinburgh, the present able mathematical teacher, Mr. Neilson, was appointed in his place.

While Mr. White was initiating young Dumfries in the mysteries of Euclid, Mr. Kennedy was busy familiarising the same interesting charge with caligraphy and French.

The one laboured at his calling for the long period of two-score years, and the other, as his monument points out, had a still more lengthened spell. The inscription states that it is "In memory of John Kennedy, who filled the offices of writing master and teacher of the French language with great ability and reputation for 44 years, and died 28th Oct. 1826, in the 67th year of his age." It also commemorates his wife, Elizabeth Denholm, died 5th July 1865, aged 85, and six members of their household as follows: Sarah, died 1st Oct. 1855, aged 48; Mary, who died in infancy; John Hamilton Kennedy, Lieut.-Colonel of the Madras Native Infantry, who died at Redcastle, 20th May 1865, aged 60; Sarah Young, his wife, who died at Masulipatam, 13th November 1848, aged 43; William Denholm Kennedy [artist], who died in London, 2d June 1865, aged 54; Helen, eldest daughter of Colonel Kennedy, who died in London, 25th March 1866, aged 26. The names of sundry other relatives appear upon the plinth of the monument: two more daughters of Colonel Kennedy, Marion, wife of Allan Duff, died in Edinburgh, 16th October 1870, aged 30, and Elizabeth, died in the same city 21st October 1870, aged 28; Jane, daughter of John H. Kennedy, Captain of the Madras Army, who died in childhood.

Some of the inscriptions we have met with seem to be too prodigal of praise, but the Kennedy one does not err in this respect. The panegyric which it passes on the excellent preceptor is certainly not overdone. Much of his great professional success was due to his sympathetic disposition, which enabled him all the better to understand the feelings of his pupils and win their confidence. Every boy or girl that entered his school, we are told, cherished for him through life the most affectionate feelings, and he possessed in a remarkable degree "the happy art of shaming children out of their little foibles and changing and improving the most untoward tempers." No mention is made upon the monument of the services rendered to art by his accomplished son, William D. Kennedy, the greatest landscape and figure painter whom the Burgh has produced. His celebrated classical scenes, with their gorgeous colouring, will long preserve his name and fame while he is mouldering in the dust. On one occasion, when Sir David Wilkie and a brother artist were looking at some pictures that were still fresh though several centuries old, the former pensively remarked, "It is we who are the shadows; and it is pictures such as these that remain the substance, when their producers have passed away." Yet we should have liked to see some notice taken of Kennedy, the painter, on the family monument, even though we feel gratification in thinking that he cannot be forgotten so long as "the breathing canvas" of his creative genius outlives the assaults of time. The post vacated nearly fifty years ago by John Kennedy, as writing master, was next filled by John Craik, who acquired more than local repute by his matchless penmanship; he was succeeded by David Dunbar, the poet of Home-life; and the vacancy caused by his death, in 1873, was filled up by an efficient teacher, Mr. William Grierson, who recently left Dumfries to occupy another situation in Glasgow.

Neighbouring the Kennedy monument, rises another one of an imposing stamp, in memory of Christopher Smyth of Beechgrove, a shrewd and skilful member of the legal profession, who had an extensive practice as such for many years before his death, which took place 14th May 1843, aged 78. His wife, Jane Gray, and several of their children, are named in the inscription: one of them, George Alexander, became a merchant in Calcutta, where he died at the early age of 27, on 3d January 1823; another, Christopher, still younger by a year, sickened and died at sea 12th July 1826, while proceeding to the same city from Rangoon, as chief officer of the East India Company's ship Ganges; a third, Charles Gray, writer in Kirkcudbright, died 23d July 1846, aged 30; a fourth, Dr. W. G. Smyth, who practised as a physician in London, died there 2d April 1857; a fifth, Thomas Robinson Smyth, who followed his father's profession in Dumfries, and took a creditable part in public affairs both as councillor and bailie, his death occurring 21st April 1860 (age not stated); and a daughter, Agnes, who died 27th July 1860.

A lengthened obituary list has recently been added as follows: Jane, third daughter of Mr. C. Smyth, and relict of the late William Luck of Kennington Park, London, died 9th November 1868; Maria, eldest daughter, and relict of the late George Little, surgeon, Ecclefechan, died 22d October 1874; Bridget Irving, wife of John A. Smyth, solicitor, died 14th June 1864; Christopher Alfred Smyth, only child of Alfred L. Brander, of the War Office, London, the youthful grandson of Mr. C. Smyth; and Eleanor Doveton, infant daughter of William Gray Smyth, M.D., London. The family is now represented by Mr. John A. Smyth, solicitor and Burgh Treasurer, also a most useful member of our local parliament.

The Smyth monument is flanked by two stones of tabular form. One of them is in memory of George Gray, of the Excise, died 28th July 1810, aged 74, to whom the following glowing tribute is paid:

"The whole tenor of his life was unblemished; his conduct discreet, sincere, and manly; his heart grateful and affectionate; a sincere Christian, an excellent husband, an anxious father, and a faithful friend."

His spouse, Mary Armstrong; their son William, of the Excise, died 24th December 1817, aged 39; and another son, George, writer, died 30th April 1818, aged 37, are also named in the inscription.

The second stone bears the following epitaph, the versified portion of which is not very happily expressed:

"In memory of Janet Gray, spouse to Captain George Williams of Whitehaven, who died there 5th November 1789, aged 57, was brought from thence, and interred here as the last token of esteem for the remains of a kind and indulgent partner, much respected through life and regretted at death. Her virtues heightened by a modest, sweet, and engaging disposition; pious, mild, and benevolent; a sincere friend, a worthy companion, a most affectionate and loving wife,

Who while in life great care for me did take,
Which makes me to lament my dear departed mate;
But since it was His will, which is divine,
His blessed will ought always to be mine.

Also Janet Borthwick, spouse to the above-mentioned George Williams, who died upon the 26th day of September 1815, in the 53d year of her age. Respected through life and regretted at death, a most affectionate wife and attentive mother."

The words "Sacred to the memory of Ambrose Clarke, late of the George Inn, Dumfries," appear upon a neighbouring headstone, with a cross above and "Requiescat in pace" below, to indicate the Roman Catholic faith which he held. Probably the house of which he was the energetic landlord displayed at first the pictured head of the "wee, wee German lairdie" by way of sign-board, and at all events it was a prosperous inn during the reign of all the Four Georges, till the stage-coach business, on which it so much relied, was interfered with by the irresistible "Genius of the Rail." It was in the George Hotel that an incident occurred to which the municipal annals of Scotland, we believe, afford no parallel—the election, namely, of John Corbet as Provost early on a Sabbath morning, after his supporters had, on the preceding day, been forcibly expelled from the Council Chamber by the rival party during the celebrated contest between the Pyets and the Crows, at Martinmas 1759. While Mr. Clarke was host of the George, it was still a flourishing and favourite "place of entertainment for man and beast." He died 26th September 1838, aged 57. An adjoining stone, similar in form, commemorates his relative, Frederick Campbell, died 30th December 1837, aged 42, and the wife of the latter, Martha Cowdery.

Of venerable patriarchs we have traced not a few during our frequent visits to St. Michael's; and with no ordinary interest we overlook the spot where rests the father of them all in point of age—James M'Neil, who was more than a centenarian, and remarkable for guileless simplicity and moral worth as well as for length of days. A table tombstone marks the place, beside which are two thrughs bearing memorial words that are repeated on the principal monument, the combined inscriptions reading thus:

> "In memory of James M'Neil, of Royal Oak, near this town, who departed this life April 30, 1836, aged 101 years. Agnes Anderson, spouse to James M'Neil, who died Sept. 11th, 1784, aged 46 years. Also of James M'Neil, their son, late baker and brewer in Dumfries, who departed this life Nov. 8th, 1832, aged 67. Also Elizabeth M'Neil, their daughter, who died June 2, 1849, aged 81. Also Agnes M'Kitrick, relict of James M'Kitrick, mason, and daughter of the above, who died on the 25th of November 1857, aged 78 years. Also Mary M'Neil, who died 10th January 1869, aged 93."

The veteran's spouse was cut off at middle age; but his progeny, inheriting his constitutional vigour, enjoyed lengthened leases of life, and probably that of James would have been more protracted had not the epidemic of 1832, which made such a resistless onslaught upon young and old, numbered him among its victims. From what we have heard of the patriarchal M'Neil, and from a fine sketch given of him by the *Courier*, we are led to think that he must in some respects have resembled Isaac Ashford, as depicted by "Nature's sternest painter, yet the best," George Crabbe :—

> "To bliss domestic he his heart resigned,
> And with the firmest had the fondest mind :
> Were others joyful, he looked smiling on,
> And gave allowance where he needed none,
> Good he refused with future ill to buy,
> Nor knew a joy that caused reflection's sigh.
>
> * * * * * *
>
> True to his church he came : no Sunday-shower
> Kept him at home in that important hour ;
> Nor his firm feet could one persuading sect
> By the strong glare of their new light direct ;
> 'On hope, in mine own sober light I gaze,
> But should be blind and lose it in your blaze.'"

Subjoined is the obituary notice referred to, copied from the *Courier* of 4th May 1836 :

"Died at the Royal Oak, near Gasstown, on Friday, the 29th ultimo, Mr. James M'Neil, in the 101st year of his age. A few weeks ago we had the curiosity to visit this veteran, and on referring to our note-book, found the following entry :—A friend or two lately visited the greatest veteran in the district—old Mr. James M'Neil, who has resided half a century in the same house, and in the Lochar Moss for a much longer period, say from seventy to eighty years. Drs. Wight, Mutter, Burnside, and Scot filled in succession the pulpit of St. Michael's in his day; and when the Rev. Robert Wallace was inducted, he remarked that he was the fifth minister that he had seen in the parish. About sixteen years ago, when the sacrament was dispensed, Mr. M'Neil was confined for a short period by indisposition, and at that time he mentioned that for more than sixty years he had not been absent from the parish church on any similar occasion. In his outgoings and incomings he was remarkably regular, performed family worship morning and evening, lived within the sound of St. Michael's bell, visited the house of prayer twice every Sabbath, and, including Fast and other preaching days, must have listened to more than seven thousand lectures and sermons. During his whole life he was a hard working man, married early, reared a numerous family, and reclaimed by his own hands a few acres of moss land, which became a little lairdship and his chief support in his declining years. The house he resides in was built fifty years ago, and bore for long the name of the Royal Oak, from a goodly tree that was at length cut down as being too large for the size of the garden. A little before this time not a house stood where Gasstown is now built: Mr. M'Neil recollects the time when there were only three between Dumfries and Collin toll-bar. Like most old people he considers the changes that society has undergone no great improvement, clings to the past, and particularly to the time when every family brewed their own temperate cup of ale. Mr. M'Neil was born in the parish of Anwoth, and for many years his father kept the principal inn at Gatehouse-of-Fleet. Afterwards, however, he removed to Kirkmahoe, and one of the oldest things our friend remembers is standing on a throughstone at Kirkton Churchyard to see the Highlanders march past in the '45. His father had a pair of silver buckles, which he took the precaution of hiding lest Donald should break the eighth commandment, and a few pounds of gunpowder were removed from the house for the same reason. Politics never troubled his mind: rising with the lark and going to bed as soon, he consulted few books excepting the Bible, and cared little for Prime Minister and affairs of State so long as all went well at home—including friends and neighbours, the parish generally, and especially the minister of the Old Church." As regards the veteran's demise it is stated that "the machinery of life stood still, extreme old age merged so completely into infancy that nothing could be more characteristic than the expression used by his principal attendant, 'He just, sir, slept away.'"

The veritable shoe buckles individualised in the above narrative are still preserved whole and bright at Viewfield, Dumfries, the residence of the veteran's respected grandson, Mr. Thomas D. M'Kitrick; and we need scarcely say that they are carefully treasured as interesting mementoes of a bye-gone age.

During the early part of the current century there were few more notable men in Dumfries than James M'Neil, son of the centenarian. Possessed of uncommon energy and enterprise, he carried on business as a baker, brewer, and banker simultaneously, and for a long period with success. He became a large landed proprietor, in which capacity he was known to be a liberal improver; and while owner of Craigs, he opened the productive quarry upon that estate. The block of buildings in High Street called the Turnpike (which was superseded by the present stately tenements about fifty years ago) belonged to him. There for some time after the Revolution lived the notorious persecutor, Grierson of Lag; there too he died; and so overgrown had he become that his remains could not be carried for burial down stairs, but a division between the front windows had to be removed in order that the body might be lowered down to the hearse by which it was conveyed to Dunscore Churchyard. Sixty years ago people generally were more superstitious than they are now, and many a one wondered that Mr. M'Neil not only occupied the same premises but slept in the same bedroom as Lag. Without being a cronie of Burns, Mr. M'Neil's sister, who acted as his housekeeper, used to remark that "she aye kend richt weel when her brother had been spending his nichts wi' the poet." Unfortunately, the banking enterprise in which Mr. M'Neil was engaged collapsed with a destructive crash, his loss amounting, it is said, to about £20,000.

CHAPTER XXI.

BEHIND THE CHURCH.

EASTWARD, behind the church, stretches an extensive section in which several patrician families, with many middle-class and others of a humbler grade, have found a home of rest. The boundary line between it and the still more extensive division we have just left behind on the south may be indicated by several prominent memorials, beginning with the Elshieshields pillar and terminating a little eastward of the Martyrs' pyramid.

The pillar just named rises so high that it cannot be overlooked, and its proportions and details are so tasteful as to merit universal admiration. A panel on the east side is dedicated to Theodore Edgar of Elshieshields, who died 5th February 1784, aged 68; and one on the south to John William Byrne of Elshieshields, who died at Redland Park, Clifton, 13th March 1876, aged 72, "in full peace." Two table-stones near by are raised over kindred dust, on one of which we read: "Here lyes the body of Mr. Robert Edgar, writer in Dumfries, who lived almost fourscore years and ten, and died an honest man," July 4th 1759. His spouse, Marion Johnstone, and his daughter, "Mrs. Marion Edgar," who lived to very nearly her father's age, are also named on the monument. The other commemorates Esther Pearson, widow of Theodore Edgar, "Mrs. Margaret Edgar," "Mrs. Christina Bethune," wife of John Edgar of Elshieshields, and John Edgar Dickson of Elshieshields, died 21st November 1858, aged 80.

Fronting southwards, stands a very handsome structure in memory of Robert Kemp, who, as writer, chief-magistrate, and town-clerk, occupied a high social position. He was elevated to the provostship in 1834, and discharged its duties efficiently; and in 1842 he succeeded to the town-clerkship, which office he retained till his death, which occurred 30th January 1853, at the age of 74. The stone also commemorates Margaret M'Ghie, his widow, died 5th June

1871, aged 86; their sons—William, who died at 11, and Robert, a writer by profession, who died 7th June 1839, aged 24; and their daughter Mary, wife of Professor Ambrose Blacklock, of the Medical College, Madras, who died at that Presidency 21st February 1856, and, as mentioned in chapter eighteenth, lies there interred. A table monument stands in the same compartment to commemorate Provost Kemp's parents, Robert Kemp, cabinetmaker, and Mary M'Kinnel. In "The Siller Gun" its author makes John Gas pay a high compliment to the craftsman just named. An observer of the Trades' procession having inquired

> "O wha amang the Wrights is he
> That seems for grace to bear the gree?"

receives the following reply from the well-informed barber:

> "It's Roby Kemp: in him you see,
> On virtue's plan,
> The traits of true nobility—
> An honest man!"

We next come to a spacious compartment, twenty-two feet by fifteen, which wears an aspect that is at once antique and aristocratic. Upon the floor are three slabs, one of them bearing characters nearly two centuries old, while a portion of the church wall which they adjoin is made florid by a finely-carved escutcheon, whose familiar motto, "Dominus Dedit," supplies a ready key to the necrology of the place. Some of the best families in the land count near kinship with the dust that lies below; with it are associated also many notable persons and important national events. The train of thought that springs up as we survey the memorial stones takes in Mary Queen of Scots; her truest friend among the Scottish peers, John, sixth Lord Herries; her sweetest laureate, Robert Burns; the chivalrous knight, Robert, fourth Earl of Nithsdale, who in 1715 forfeited wealth, title, and nearly life itself in supporting the claims of her descendant to his ancestral throne; together with the salient historical incidents which these names are fitted to suggest.

In Buittle old churchyard, in the ancient choir of Terregles Church, and along the west wall of St. Michael's Cemetery (as has been already seen) many of the Nithsdale Maxwells have found a grave; and others of them, belonging to the Munches and Terraughtie branch, lie interred in the section now under notice. To James Maxwell of Breckonside, second son of the famous Lord Herries, this branch owes its origin. By his wife Margaret, daughter of Vans of Barnbarroch, relict of Sir John Gordon of Lochinvar, he had two sons; and if the tradition be true which states that this lady bore no fewer than twenty-nine children to her two husbands, she must have been by far the most prolific mother of whom there is any trace in our local annals. The nearest approach to her we have heard of was Mrs. Malcolm, whose tombstone, previously visited, states that she had presented her husband, the Town-Clerk of Dumfries, with twenty-three children. John, son of James Maxwell, appears next as laird of Breconside and Terraughtie; and passing over some intermediate links we reach the best known of the Terraughtie family, John, great-great-grandson of Queen Mary's doughty champion, the intimate friend of Burns, and the veteran hero of one of the poet's best effusions. Being a younger son, he had no patrimony; he was therefore apprenticed to a joiner in Dumfries, and after acquiring that trade he prosecuted it with such success that he was able in 1754, while quite a young man, to purchase Terraughtie from John M'George of Cocklick, into whose hands it had fallen; and to that estate he afterwards added, through the same money power, Portrack, in Holywood. He married first Agnes, daughter of William Hannay, Dumfries, who bore to him three sons and six daughters; secondly, Agnes Maxwell, who in 1793 succeeded her brother, George Maxwell, in Munches, and died in 1809, at the venerable age of 90, without issue. She conveyed both Munches and Dinwoodie to her husband, who thus by degrees became a very extensive landowner, and he in 1813 executed an entail of the estates in favour of his children by Agnes Hannay. On the death of William Maxwell of Nithsdale, only son of the last Earl (whose escape from prison and pending death through the heroism of his Countess forms such a romantic episode in the history of the times), the descendant of Lord Herries became heir male to the other Maxwell peerage, and as such he was served heir to the fourth Earl on 4th June 1778. Fully a dozen years after this date, when John Maxwell of Terraughtie was 71 years of age, Burns presented him with the celebrated Birthday Address, abounding with good wishes:

> "This day thou metes threescore eleven,
> And I can tell that bounteous Heaven
> (The second sight ye ken is given
> To ilka Poet)
> On thee a tack o' seven times seven
> Will yet bestow it.
>
> If envious buckies view wi' sorrow
> Thy lengthened days on this blest morrow,
> May desolation's lang-teeth'd harrow,
> Nine miles an hour,
> Rake them like Sodom and Gomorrah
> In brimstane stoure.
>
> But for thy friends—and they are mony,
> Baith honest men and lassies bonnie—
> May couthie fortune kind and cannie,
> In social glee,
> Wi' mornings blythe and e'enings funny
> Bless them and thee."

Though the veteran thus addressed was come of a long-lived race, and retained much of his pristine vigour till he had reached fourscore years and ten, his life-tack was less patriarchal in length than the bard—making his wish the parent of his prophecy—foretold. Mr. Maxwell, however, was only six years short of being a centenarian when he died, 25th January 1814.

He was succeeded by his son Alexander; and it is in memory of the latter that the storied monumental crest already referred to, with an accompanying epitaph, has been set up in the family burial ground. Bred to the medical profession, he married, first, Charlotte, daughter of another physician, James Douglas, son of William Douglas of Kelhead; secondly, in 1783, Marion, eldest daughter of William Gordon of Greenlaw, relict of William Kirkpatrick of Raeberry. By his first spouse he had only one child, Charlotte, who died young; by his second he had no issue; and he was succeeded in Munches by Clementina, his niece, who married, in 1813, John Herries Maxwell of Barncleuch, and succeeded to Munches, Dinwoodie, and Terraughtie on the death of her uncle, Alexander, and when she died, in 1858, she was succeeded by her son, the present Wellwood Herries Maxwell of Munches.

The monument in memory of Alexander H. Maxwell displays the family crest, with its two-headed eagle (Maxwell), its urcheons or hedgehogs and stag's head (Herries), with supporters, a savage holding a club on one side, and an antlered buck on the other: the mottoes being "Reviresco" and "Dominus Dedit"—"The Lord Gave." Below is the following inscription, which brings well out the character of the deceased:

"Sacred to the memory of Alexander Herries Maxwell of Munches, Esquire, who died on the 28th of June 1815, in the 71st year of his age. Benevolent, frank, social, and warm-hearted, he was a steady and sincere friend, and always ready to advance the interests of those who had any claim to his good offices. After a residence of thirty-six years in London, he relinquished the medical profession, in which he had been indefatigable, and retiring to the vicinity of his native town, he devoted the remainder of his days to the exercise of his accustomed hospitality, the pursuit of agriculture, and the promotion of every plan for the improvement of the country. Thus was his life extensively useful and his death most deeply lamented."

On a tablet lower down appears the name of his second wife, "Mrs. Marion Gordon," who died at Terraughtie, 14th April 1839, at the same great age as her father-in-law, 94.

One of the thrughs in the compartment is full of antiquarian interest. Although the lettering is in relief, it is still sharp and only difficult to decipher because the characters and spelling are those which prevailed when Charles the Second was king. Crossing the stone in the usual way the following lines are cut:

"Heir lyes James Maxwell, lait Sheref Clark in Drumfreis, who depairted this life the 31 of March anno domine 1679 of age 54."

Accompanying this prosaic intimation, but running transverse to it, appears a laconic poetical homily in these terms:

"Flit hence envie debate and strife
He's blessed who enjoyes a life
Of heavenlie blessings great in stor
With angels reigneing ever mor."

Another of the slabs commemorates William, "second son to John Maxwell, Esq. of Terraughtie," died 25th February 1789, aged 43; Janet Syme, his spouse, died 5th May 1810, aged 63; and Agnes, their second daughter, who died at Arundale House, 13th May 1869, when on the verge of 85. The third slab bears simply the initials M. M. and date 23d August 1849.

On a tablet affixed to the left of the chief monument appears the name of a lady whose house in Buccleuch Street was long a place of fashionable resort, and from whence flowed a perennial well-spring of charity to the poor. Miss Peggy Maxwell, as she was popularly called, was a fine specimen of the old Scottish gentlewoman, and those who remember her best will be the last to say that her virtues are exaggerated in the following epitaph:

> "In memory of Margaret, youngest daughter of John Maxwell of Terraughtie and Munches, who died in Dumfries 23d April 1849, aged 94 years. Intelligent, warm-hearted, generous to friends, devoted and constant to the necessitous and afflicted, ever feelingly liberal. Long the centre of an honoured circle, she merited and elicited esteem, respect, attachment. Leaving the world finally full of faith and hope in the merits of her Redeemer."

Here we see the age 94 a third time repeated—first in the case of "Maxwell's vet'ran chief," then in the case of his daughter-in-law, and next in that of his own daughter.

There have been four chief-magistrates of the Burgh named Irving, all descended, we believe, from Francis Irving, whose grand old monument, as it appears on the west wall of the Churchyard, was described in our first chapter. Near the spot where lie the Terraughtie Maxwells rests John Irving of Logan, Provost of "Drumfries," who was connected with them by marriage, Alexander Maxwell of Park, brother of John Maxwell of Breconside, having had for his second wife Janet, daughter of a preceding Provost Irving, who bore to him eight children. We first meet with the name John Irving as chief-ruler in 1660; it is repeated as such for a series of years beginning with 1668; and it appears again in 1697. It was probably his son who in the following year became Provost, and is designated "of Logan" on the venerable table monument now arrived at. Logan again occupied the civic chair in 1726-7-8. He took a leading part in the erection of the central Burgh building over which the Mid-Steeple presides. His death occurred 28th November 1752, aged 85. The stone also commemorates his spouse, Elizabeth Irving, died 18th December 1768, aged 79; their daughters, Agnes, Marion, and Grizel, aged respectively 54, 36, and 54.

Within the same compartment rises an imposing structure of Gothic design, dedicated to Logan's son-in-law, David Blair. The panel of the canopied recess tells us that he died 22d April 1784, aged 68; that his spouse Ann, daughter of Provost Irving, died in September 1819, aged 90; and that their niece, Janet Gracie, died 19th November 1837, aged 87. A massive oblong urn occupies the base of the recess, the plinth below which bears the names of Henrietta Georgiana, aged 14, and of Helen Wyndham Angelque, daughters of W. G. Johnstone of Garroch.

For the last two hundred years at least, the name Gordon in connection with the legal profession, has been familiar in Dumfries. When Provost Crosbie was preparing to defend the Burgh from the threatened attack of "Kenmure's Lord," he (as noticed in connection with another monument) sent a deputation, including James Gordon, writer, to the Stewartry for assistance. On a neighbouring table tombstone we see the name and the business twice over associated, as follows: Robert Gordon, writer, died 25th June, 1789, aged 31; and John Gordon, writer, died 24th June, 1805, aged 27. A table next to it bears the names of Robert Gordon, tailor, died 12th February, 1794, aged 69; of Margaret Howat, his spouse, who lived till she was 86; and of Mary, their daughter, who died at the age of 73.

Sundry members of the liquor trade, life's cup long since drained dry, lie buried in this section. Near the south-east corner of the Church rises a neat upright stone erected by Isabella Craig to commemorate her husband Andrew Thompson, spirit merchant, died 14th June 1850, aged 32: it now bears her own name also, with that of her father John Craig, agent, died 15th August 1865, aged 69. On table-stones further eastward we read of Humea Manderson, innkeeper, died 30th June 1799, aged 46, with her two youthful children and William M'Ilwrith, who died in infancy ; of James Johnstone, vintner, died 1st June 1798, aged 57, with his spouse Henrietta ; and William Potter of the Crown Inn, died 23d July 1819, aged 40, who is honoured with the following epitaph :

"Endowed by nature with an active and vigorous understanding, ardent and constant in his attachments, and endeared by his affectionate temper to his family and friends, and possessing the esteem and confidence of a numerous and respectable acquaintance."

Agnes Harris, wife of Andrew Robertson, who carried on a large trade as a spirit-dealer, lies below a neighbouring stone of the same form ; she died 16th January 1810, age not stated. Close by, a slab raised over the remains of Elizabeth, the child daughter of Charles Thompson, master in the Royal Navy, and probably related to Mr. Robertson, bears the following lines :—

"Mourn not for me, my parents dear,
I am not dead but sleeping here ;
My debt is paid, my grave you see,
Wait but a while—you'll be with me."

To James Anderson, skinner, died 8th December 1848, aged 66, a very graceful monument is devoted, which overlooks a beautiful memorial cross cut in white marble by Mr. Flint, bearing the name of Jane Sutherland, died 13th April 1872, aged 68. James Renwick, shoemaker, her husband, who still survives, occupied more than once the most prominent place in King Crispin's Walk, a pageant which used to be carried out very imposingly in Dumfries. When Mr. Renwick was at his best he made a good appearance, and we are old enough to recollect that when royally attired he last figured in the procession, he looked "every inch a king." This was in 1836 ; his deceased wife on that occasion holding a mimic court as Queen of the Crispinites. The pageant was renewed on 10th March 1863, in honour of the Prince of Wales's marriage ; at that time another man of stately aspect, Robert Scott, now lying low under the dominion of Death, personated the King.

Shaded with funereal shrubs rises a neat monument commemorating as follows the children and other relatives of the late Mr. Little of Maryfield : Mary Johnstone Little, died at Cheltenham, aged 3, and there interred ; George, died at Maryfield, aged 3 ; Mary Johnstone, aged 6 ; John M'Farlane, age 3 ; Robert James, who died in infancy ; Mary Porteous, their aunt, died 12th March 1849, aged 36; also Charles Porteous, died at Maxwelltown, 9th April 1860, aged 31.

Three family table-stones occupy a site adjoining, the oldest one bearing the following inscription, with the sentiment of which, those who mourn for mothers departed, will especially sympathise :—

> "To the memory of Elizabeth Macleod, wife of Alexr. Wylie, druggist in Dumfries, who died on the 2d day of May, 1792, in the 35th year of her age, leaving seven children to deplore the loss of an affectionate mother, whose faithful discharge of every duty endeared her to all who knew her. Erected by her son, Henry Wylie, on his revisiting Dumfries in 1817, after about 20 years absence, to mark the hallowed spot where her remains were deposited."

The second stone commemorates Margaret Wylie, died 16th November 1801, aged 44 ; her husband, James Crosbie, merchant, who died in Edinburgh, 30th May 1822, aged 71, and was interred in Calton Hill burying-ground ; and Mary, daughter of William Crosbie in Gamrig of Kirkmichael, died at 20, Robert, his son, died at 19, and Jessie, his daughter, at 31. On the third stone appears the name of George Crosbie of Bowhill and Queensberry in Ceylon, who amassed a fortune in that island, and returning home acquired Laurelmount, where he breathed his last, 1st December 1867, while yet in the summer of existence, his age being 51. The inscription also includes Elizabeth Brown, second wife of James Crosbie, merchant, died 17th October 1809, aged 50 ; William Crosbie, his son, late in Gamrig, Kirkmichael, died 24th November 1850, aged 68 ; and Mary Johnstone, spouse of the latter, died 17th November 1850, aged 69.

The voyage of existence over, William M'Guffog, mariner, lies below a neighbouring table-stone, died 17th February 1824, aged 73 ; also his spouse, Elizabeth Smith ; and their daughter Elizabeth, wife of Convener Howat, flesher, whose own monument has already been noticed ; she is truly stated to have been " an affectionate wife, a tender mother, and a sincere friend." Their son Alexander, who died in the noon of life, 29th September 1832, is also commemorated in the inscription.

On the next altar-stone appears the following quaint yet well-expressed inscription :

> "Here lys the remains of Helena Maxwell, relict to Robert Fergusson of Hallhill, who, upon the 23d May 1773, was releas'd from the burdens of mortality and calmly entered into her Master's joy in the 68 year of her age. Also rests here the dust of Anna Maxwell, daughter of the deceas'd Robert Maxwell, Esq., late of Hazlefield, who left this mortal state on the 12th Sept. 1777, aged 76 years. Here also rests the dust of Lucia Maxwell, late of Hazlefield, and relict of Dr. Alex. M'Kie, Jamaica, who died the 16th of Aug., 1790, aged 79 years.
>
> Friend after friend from thee is torn away,
> No year—scarce month—but marks some mournful day.
>
> Also her daughter, Mrs Lucia Aitken, relict of the Rev. James Finnan, minister of Irongray, who died January 1803, aged 63 years. Also Mrs Gordon M'Kie, wife of Col. Pleydell, who died 6th August 1821, aged 74 years."

With the saddlery business of the Burgh, a name we see on the next table-stone was for many years identified. It commemorates John Coulthard, whose establishment, situated in the corner between English Street and Queen Street, was adorned outside by an equinal figure, like the one with which Troy was taken, but not just so big ; and which premises, as occupied in the same line by Mr. Fallas, still boast of a similar ornament. Mr. Coulthard died 24th August 1829, age not given. Mention is also made on the monument of his wives Elioner Stainton and Isabella Grieves, and five of his children, including Joseph, died 17th April 1830, age not stated ; Grizel Hunter, his third wife, died 16th March 1841, at the advanced age of 82 ; and of Isabella Young, wife of David Coulthard, saddler, died 17th April 1830.

No fewer than three booksellers lie in this neighbourhood : William Chalmers, who numbered Bailie Sinclair among his apprentices, died 24th June 1813, aged 63 ; Allan Anderson, died 25th May 1862, aged 78 ; and Wellwood Richardson, who, though a Dumfries man, carried on business at Annan, where he died 11th January 1874, aged 70. Mr. Richardson was a most indefatigable collector of old quaint books. He had stored up several thousand volumes, modern and antique, putting a special value upon all of the black letter sort,

"With close-prest leaves unclosed for many an age,
The dull, red edging of the well-filled page,
On whose broad back the stubborn ridges rolled,
Where yet the title stood in burnished gold."

Though by no means a learned man, or even particularly devoted to literature, Dominie Sampson had no greater passion for rare old tomes than Wellwood Richardson, and, like that famous pedagogue, he was simplicity itself, and ready to part with his last shilling in the way of charity. A neat monument facing the north walk rises to his memory, and that of his wife, Jannet Mien, and their youthful daughter Nicholas.

His brother, William Richardson, draper, afterwards sheriff-officer, died 9th October 1849, aged 49; his wife, Ann Aitken, and their daughter Jean, aged 8, lie beneath an adjoining table, the inscription on which states that "he was an affectionate husband, father, and friend."

Further east a large double monument rises in memory of their uncle, Burnside Richardson, whose extensive brokery premises in Church Square looking down High Street long formed a familiar feature of that locality just as the sonsie presence of their worthy occupant was well-known throughout the Burgh for many years before his death, which occurred 5th July 1852, aged 73. "He was an affectionate husband and kind father." His wife, Jannet Kerr; their son-in-law, William Corrie, who died at Carlisle, 13th October 1868, aged 62; and William, son of the above, are named in the inscription. A separate epitaph is devoted to William, youngest son of Burnside Richardson, cut off, 6th October 1847, when he had just entered on his teens; and which runs thus:—

"Here rests our William's mortal frame,
We mourn his early doom,
But Christian hope aspires to claim
His triumph o'er the tomb."

Ann Byers, second wife of Burnside Richardson, died 27th April 1875, aged 82, is also named upon the monument.

A venerable slab in front of the first-mentioned Richardson monument bears to have been erected by "the heirs of William Mundell, late treasurer in this Brough, 1716." It was, no doubt, intended that an obituary notice of the deceased should appear upon it, but that design remains unfulfilled, and the original supports of the memorial having given way, it lies flat upon the ground. We find an interesting minute in the Session-books regarding this particular portion of the Cemetery, its owner and occupant, of date 6th October 1712 : it is in the following terms : "The qlk day a petition given in by William Mundell, merchant in this Burgh, craving the grant of a buriall place in the churchyeard, being read and heard, considered petition, and viewing the place in the churchyeard, and finding it vacant, granted it to the said William, allowing him to enter into the possession of three graves by laying three grave stones on the samen, or other ways as he shall see fit, in a room lying on the north corner of the M'Brair's isle ; also two of the grave stones are to ly, one at the other end, bounded with the common road that goes to the nether end of the churchyeard on the north parte, and the third grave stone is to ly on the south side of the uppermost grave stone that lys next the corner of the M'Brair's isle."

Table tombstones commemorate William Hill, merchant, died 2d October 1740, aged 86, with Margaret Thomson, his spouse ; James Callander, merchant, son of James Callander of Brockloch, died 8th May 1791, aged 69, with Mary Hill, his spouse, and William, their infant child ; Janet Gullen, spouse of John Wilson, merchant, and daughter of the Rev. Gabriel Gullen, died 28th July 1787, aged 62 ; two infant children of William Johnston, merchant, also Thomas Lutterick, died 22d January 1823, aged 70, with Daniel, his son, died 24th December 1823, aged 39 ; John Gibson, tailor, died August 17th 17–2, aged 72—the inscription included other names which are now illegible ; James Johnston, joiner, died 20th November 1786, aged 44, with Elizabeth Henderson, his spouse, and several children ; Henry Wilkinson, another joiner, died July 26th 1762, aged 62 ; James Allan, painter, died 11th October 1773, aged 22 ; William Barry, brewer, died at Priestlands, 3d June 1841, aged 84, with his wife, Elizabeth Brand ; John Little, died 7th July 1812, aged 57, with

Margaret Cummings, his wife, and two of their children who died young; Susan Audrey Kemeys, spouse to Robert Riddell of Carzield, and fourth daughter of Reginald Kemeys of Bartholy, Monmouthshire, "She died 5th November 1800, aged 63 years, and lies interred below this monument, near the remains of three of her children, who died in a state of infancy;" while on a thrugh we read of Jane Charteris, wife of Samuel Bell, died 26th January 1848, aged 61, and three of their infant children. 187

Scattered up and down in this sub-division we find headstones which commemorate the following: Sergeant Francis Little, died 14th April 1839, aged 55, with Margaret Paterson, his spouse, and six of their children, four of whom were infants, Ann died at 25, Francis at 35, also Francis M'Kinnon died at 7, and Jane Pringle at 22, grandchildren of Sergeant Little; William Roddan, weaver, died 8th June 1794, aged 61, with Grizel Kirkpatrick, his spouse; William Anderson, another weaver, died at Gasstown 4th August 1838, aged 59, with Mary Johnston, his spouse; Robert Smith, tailor, died 3d October 1832, with Jane Graham, his wife, and five children, the oldest of whom was David, a sailor boy; William Roddan, died 17th October 1867, aged 84, with Agnes, his wife; Agnes Johnston, wife of John, Roddan, cooper, died 29th April 1865, aged 64, with an infant granddaughter; John Anderson, died 10th June 1837, aged 66, with two young children, and an infant grandson; Charles Kirkpatrick, smith, died 19th June 1873, aged 71, with Janet Hotson, his spouse, and their son, William, died 27th April 1867, aged 35; Thomas Knowles, shoemaker, died 4th January 1834, aged 65, with Margaret Graham, his wife —Thomas, their son, of the same trade, died 25th November 1837, aged 33, with his wife Agnes M'Haffie; Margaret, daughter of Thomas Knowles, jun., died at 21, and an infant daughter; two children, Edward and Elizabeth, the sole issue of William and Barbara Quaile; William and John, the infant offspring of Robert Selkirk, the last Deacon of the Fleshers under the old incorporated system.

CHAPTER XXII.

BEHIND THE CHURCH—CONTINUED.

HAVING now crossed over the upper part of this subdivision to where it is bounded by the footpath on the north, we turn and pass southward, noticing the stones that lie in our way, and shall afterwards travel somewhat irregularly from side to side, giving the results in succeeding chapters till the footpath is reached which forms the eastern boundary of the section.

Altar monuments abound, the favourite style of memorial for the middle classes during the last and early portion of the present century. Stones of this form commemorate the following merchants, with their wives or other relatives: John Maxwell, died 27th April 1802, aged 32, with his two wives, Dorothea Clark and Margaret Martin, and four of his children by the former, including Euphemia, aged 22, and William, who died at Liverpool, aged 17; Walter Neilson, died 31st January 1737, aged 75, with Margaret his spouse; William Anderson, burgess, died 21st February 1789, aged 63, with Ann Thomson his spouse; Gilbert Grierson died 12th January 1800, aged 50, with Janet Anderson his spouse; two John Thomsons (probably father and son), one of them "innkeeper and burgess of this Burgh," died 25th January 1723, aged 52, the other a merchant, died 23d March 1786, aged 82, with his spouse Elizabeth Veitch, and their youthful son, "chyr," or surgeon's apprentice; also, James (probably a brother of the second John Thomson), died 16th March 1811, aged 79.

We read of the following tradesmen and others on other table-stones: John Blain, joiner, died 8th October 1801, aged 59, with Susanna Muir, his wife, Susan Blain, spouse of William Creighton, shoemaker, died 28th June 1819, aged 24, with William, their infant son; William Anderson, burgess, died 21st February 1789, aged 63, with Ann Thomson, his spouse; James Wilson, mason, died 20th June 1833, aged 53, with Jean Dunbar, his spouse, and their two sons, Thomas and John, both of whom plied mallet and chisel, the former dying at Saffron-Waldon, Essex, 8th August 1835, aged 32, the latter at Pendleberry, near Manchester, 16th July 1845, aged 36; Walter Neilson, merchant, died 31st January 1737, aged 75, with Margaret, his spouse; Isobel Neilson, spouse to George Young, merchant, died 20th September 1777, aged 41, Henrietta, daughter of Robert Young, died 7th December 1837, aged 53; Williamina, daughter of Thomas Carrenes, baker, aged 3; Isabella Rogerson, spouse of John Spence, died 9th June 1827, aged 55, with Mary, their daughter, died at 14.

Two respected Deacons of the Hammermen are kept in memory by handsome monuments—one being Robert Nicholson, blacksmith, died 17th December 1818, aged 52, his spouse, Elizabeth Dickson, with a numerous progeny, lying beside him, including William and Janet, aged respectively 33 and 62; the other Joseph Lancaster, saddler, died 1st December 1839, aged 64, with Janet Johnstone, his wife, their son John, of the same trade, who died at 23, their daughters, Sarah, died at 10, Grizall at 20, Janet, wife of Robert Herries, joiner, died 16th September 1840, aged 31, with three others, who died when young.

In a neighbouring plot rises a neat monument in memory of Thomas Baird, manufacturer, Marion Dickson, his wife, and Charles Baird, their son, with others of their family, the dates given being rather vague. Thomas is stated to have been born in 1773, and died in 1823, and Charles to have been born in 1797, and died in December 1855. The latter was a respected and accomplished gentleman, who long ably officiated as Sheriff Clerk of Dumfriesshire. There is a slab within the same compartment in memory of Henry Dickson, vintner, died 26th September 1807, age not stated; his spouse Catherine Fergusson, died 15th June 1799, aged 75; their daughter Margaret, aged 25, and other children who died young.

On two venerable stones of tabular form we notice the name John Fraser of Laggan twice repeated. Mr. Fraser, the elder, died 11th January 1726, aged 84; while his wife, Barbara Fergusson, is stated to have died so far back as 22d May 1698. Hugh Fraser, son of the former, we believe, died 20th May 1728, aged 37; his wife, Marion Irving, is also named in the inscription. The second John Fraser of Laggan died 3d April 1776, aged 51. Another neighbouring proprietor Mark Johnston of Stonehouse and his spouse, Elizabeth Oliver, are borne in remembrance by a handsome monument. He lived to be fourscore years and four, his death occurring 19th March 1848. William Johnston and Jean Nicholson his spouse lie below a thrugh in front, from the faded inscription on which we learn with difficulty that the former died 6th August 1791, aged 68.

Near by rises a somewhat imposing monument in memory of Samuel Blaind, a highly respected draper in Dumfries, and several of his connections. The urn and sarcophagus with the drapery cast over these emblematic vessels by which the entablature is adorned, though rather heavy-looking, are gracefully chiselled. Mr. Blaind died 2d January 1860, aged 63; two of his children, cut off when young are named in the inscription; and there is a separate tablet "In remembrance of the late Mrs. M. H. Blaind, who died 2d June 1846, in her 48th year." To the memory of his father of the same name and occupation, died 3d September, 1836, aged 71; and Mary Kelly, his mother, a table tombstone is devoted. Besides dealing in drapery wares Mr. Samuel Blaind, senior, was for many years the most extensive furrier in the South of Scotland. There are also named upon the monument several other children, including Agnes died at 18, John at 19, Adam Blaind, draper, died 7th June 1846, aged 40; also Sarah Gordon Crosbie, spouse of Samuel Blaind, jun., died 23d December 1829, aged 27.

As has already been pointed out, not a few Dumfriesians, who rose to distinction in the British Possessions abroad, slumber in St. Michael's, or have memorial stones allotted to them within its precincts. One of these worthy subjects of "the Southern Queen" was Alexander Young, who "pursuing fortune's sliddery ba," with success in the Bahamas, became Speaker of the House of Assembly, New Providence, and died at Nassau, in that island, 6th September 1813, at the early age of 40. His name appears on one of a series of three table monuments, which we now arrive at, the other names upon them including those of George Young, vintner, died 16th September 1780, aged 44, with Isabella Smith his wife (the parents of the Colonial Speaker); Samuel M'Kune, baker, died 29th September 1825, aged 56, with Henrietta Young, his spouse; and Robert Young, baker and flour dealer, died 25th November 1822, aged 51.

Alexander Johnstone, who rose to eminence in another sphere abroad, receives commemoration from a more ambitious structure. He was for many years connected with the British Medical Establishment in Madras; and dying at Edinburgh 28th December 1831, aged 51, was buried below the handsome monument we have now reached, which also rises in remembrance of Barbara M'Leod, his wife, daughter of Colonel M'Leod, died at Madras 17th October, 1828. Overshadowed by funereal bushes in the same enclosure rises another stone dedicated to Samuel Johnstone, joiner, died 20th August, 1795, aged 42; his wife, Janet Armstrong, with several of their children. Regarding him it is said: "He was a loving husband, an affectionate parent, and a sincere friend."

Joseph Fergusson, who early in the century carried on a good business as painter and glazier, receives commemoration from a very handsome monument; as do his wife, Nicholas Hair, and their three children (whose ages are not recorded), James died at Toronto, 1st July 1836, William in London, 30th January 1870, and Janet, 26th February 1872. Mr. Fergusson, senior, died 18th May 1820, aged 64.

Right in front of the neat monument to Allan Anderson, bookseller, already noticed, lies a thrugh bearing the name of Andrew Wilson, baker, died 27th July 1784, aged 38; another similar stone near by commemorates Alexander M'Quhae, slater, died 16th March 1841, aged 56, with Isabella Duff, his spouse, and their daughter Isabella, aged 56. In the same neighbourhood there appears a neat little altar-stone, dedicated to two children, Margaret died at 3 and John at 1, the offspring of John Malcolm, the efficient Superintendent of the Burgh Police.

For a long time past most of the Dumfries dealers in second-hand goods have belonged to the Sister Island; and among the most respectable of these was Peter M'Cluskey, a decent, unsophisticated son of Erin, who carried on a large business as a broker in Friars' Vennel, and afterwards in Chapel Street. He lies under a table-stone, died 29th March 1854, aged 70; his wife, Mary Stewart, being buried beside him.

A venerable tomb-stone near by preserves the name of Bailie William Fingass, who bore magisterial rule about two hundred years ago. His age at death is not stated, but he "departed this life the 5th day of May, anno 1686." His wife, Isobell Johnston, who outlived him till 27th December 1719, aged 79, is mentioned in the inscription; also a descendant, Anna Grieve, daughter of James Grieve, merchant, in Dumfries. The lady died 11th of December, 1813, at the early age of 19. To her memory the following affecting tribute is paid:

"Epitaphe.
Ta main bienfaisante et chérie
D'un exile vint esuyer les pleurs
Tume vi s lieu de parens de patrie
Et le meme tombeau lorsque tumes ravie
Renferme nos deux coeurs."

During the war with France, which terminated at Waterloo, a considerable number of prisoners from that country resided on their parole in Dumfries; one of whom endured a double captivity, so to speak, having been enslaved "in love's willing fetters" by the charms of Miss Anna Grieve. She acted in no tyrant fashion to him, however; and it is probable that if she had lived they would have been married, as he seems to have been of good position, and every way worthy of her hand. When "fell death's untimely frost" nipt the gallant Frenchman's flower, just as she was blooming into womanhood, he was overwhelmed with distress, under the influence of which he penned the epitaph we have quoted. After the lapse of about forty-six years, a gentleman of dignified bearing, and seemingly about seventy years old, entered St. Michael's Churchyard, and in somewhat broken English, politely accosted Mr. Watson, who was busy with his chisel at one or other of the monuments we have already noticed. The stranger asked to be shown the spot where Mademoiselle Grieve lay interred, and on being taken to it he exhibited great emotion. He read over the epitaph, which was quite familiar to him, as it soon transpired that it was also engraved on the tablet of his memory, he being none other than the lover of the lady whose remains lay below, and for whom, though nearly half a century had elapsed, he still retained his old attachment. His passion for the pretty girl who won his youthful heart had withstood the influence of time, and survived all the vicissitudes of his career, his experience being such as is described by the poet :

"Love is a plant of holier birth
Than any that takes its root on earth ;
A flower from Heaven which 'tis a crime
To number with the things of time ;
Hope in the bud is often blasted
And beauty on the desert wasted ;
And joy a primrose early gay
Care's lightest footfall treads away ;
But Love shall live and live for ever
And chance and change shall reach it never."

The stranger, whose name we know not, remained for a considerable period beside the tomb where lay the treasure of his heart, and then tearing himself away he left the place, first thanking his kind conductor for the courtesy that had been shown to him. The epitaph may be thus translated :

Thy kind and beloved hand wiped the tears of an exile : in thee I found my relations, my country ; and the same grave, when thou art torn from me, contains our two hearts.

The name of Isobel M'Millan also appears upon the monument, died 18th May 1834, aged 85. A very similar epitaph in French is engraved upon another stone in the Cemetery, which we have already copied.

John Ewart, died 2d January 1767, aged 54, who belonged to a family of merchants, and was nearly related to the Ewarts of Mulock, sleeps below a neighbouring table, together with his wife, Bridget Batley, seven of their offspring, whose ages are not given, also their daughter Bridget, died at 29, the wife of "Andrew Smith, Esq. of Crochmore," and a bailie of the Burgh, died 30th December 1800, aged 56, with Robert, their son, died 2d February 1773, age not recorded.

Under a neighbouring altar-stone lie James Milligan, merchant, died in 1796, aged 68, Jean Nicholson, his spouse, their daughter Jean, died at 6, their son James, a Liverpool merchant, died in London 1st April 1826, aged 61, another son John, a respected hosiery manufacturer, dated 11th December 1839, aged 69, with Agnes M'Cartney, his spouse, and their daughter Agnes, who died at 6.

Memories of Burns are awakened by the inscriptions which we read on two stately stones placed within a chained enclosure. One of the monuments preserves the names of John Oughterson of Milnthird, died at Dumfries 11th February 1779, aged 70; of Margaret Sproat, his spouse, died 24th January 1823, aged 79; of Mary, their daughter, spouse of Samuel Clark, junior, writer, died 17th January 1800, aged 26; and of their son John, who died in childhood. The other table is in memory of the said "Samuel Clark, jun., conjunct Commissary Clerk and Clerk of the Peace for the County of Dumfries," died 19th August 1814, aged 45; of Margaret Elizabeth Gladstone, his granddaughter, who died in infancy; and Mary Wight, his daughter, died 26th July 1861, aged 63. With Samuel Clark, who lies here interred, Burns was on very familiar terms. On one Saturday night, sometime in 1794, they met along with other gentlemen of the town at the festive board. After the bottle had passed freely round, the conversation turned upon politics, with a special reference to the political aspects of the war which Great Britain was then waging against the French Republic. Some military officers who were present, including Captain Dods, indulged in lavish professions of loyalty at the expense of the Democrats across the Channel, upon which the poet, who, as is well known, sympathised with the Gallican Republic, proposed as a toast, "May our success in the present war be equal to the goodness of our cause." A violent scene ensued. Captain

Dods applied some strong expressions to Burns, the precise words of which are unknown, but it is understood they were to the effect that the man who could propose such a toast could not be loyal to his king. Burns retorted furiously, and had not Mr. Clark and other mutual friends interfered, the quarrel which began in hot words might have ended in blows, or at all events in a duel some other day. On the following morning the poet addressed a letter to Mr. Clark, stating that if he had had nobody's welfare to care for but his own, the expressions made use of by Captain Dods to him would, "according to the manners of the world," have necessitated a resort to pistols. "But," he proceeded to say, "I am still pleased to think that I did not ruin the peace and welfare of a wife and family of children in a drunken squabble. Further, you know that the report of certain political opinions being mine has already once before brought me to the brink of destruction. I dread lest last night's business may be misinterpreted in the same way. You, I beg, will take care to prevent it. I tax your wish for Mrs. Burns's welfare with the task of waiting as soon as possible on every gentleman who was present, and state this to him, and, as you please, shew him this letter." Burns further stated in it that "the most outrageous frenzy of loyalty could not object to the toast he had proposed."

None of the many biographers of Burns has properly identified the gentleman to whom this important letter was addressed. Robert Chambers allocated it to Mr. Stephen Clarke, jun., a teacher of music in Edinburgh ; and the Rev. P. H. Waddell, in correcting the mistake, speaks vaguely of Mr. Clark as "a resident in Dumfries, who occupied an important legal position there, as Assessor, if we mistake not, in the Burgh." From the Stone Book of St. Michael's, written with iron pen, we have already drawn some fresh information about the national poet and his associates ; and the words quoted from it above, "Samuel Clark, jun., conjunct Commissary Clerk and Clerk of the Peace for the County of Dumfries," will suffice to set at rest all controversy about the name and designation of the bosom friend to whom the national bard could write on a delicate matter in such confidential terms.

Their extreme intimacy is further illustrated by a second epistle, undated, addressed by the poet to "Mr. Samuel Clark, jun.," which appeared for the first time in Mr. Waddell's magnificent edition of Burns, and which is in the following terms :—"My Dear Sir, I recollect something of a drunken promise yesternight to breakfast with you this morning. I am very sorry that it is impossible. I remember too your very obligingly mentioning something of your intimacy with Mr. Corbet, our Supervisor-General. Some of our folks about the Excise Office, Edinr., had and perhaps still have conceived a prejudice against me, as being a drunken dissipated character. I might be all this, you know, and yet be an honest fellow ; but you know that I am an honest fellow, and am nothing of this. You may, in your own way, let him know that I am not unworthy of subscribing myself, my Dear Clark, your friend, R. Burns."

Upon this ingenuous effusion Mr. Waddell, who was indebted for a copy of it to Mrs. Stewart Gladstone of Capenoch, comments as follows : "The letter, although without date, refers manifestly to the melancholy epoch when he was in danger of dismissal for his politics, and when every other slander that could be imagined was circulated to his disadvantage and dishonour. . . . . Who that loves honesty and hates injustice can refrain from smiles, from tears of indignation on reading this letter ? How 'drunken' then could the promise be that was consistent with so distinct a recollection ? but how cruel must the calumny have been that could drive the immortal subscriber to an appeal like this ! The letter itself we have had the satisfaction of carefully inspecting. It bears no trace whatever of recent dissipation. The pen has been a little rough, but the hand is strong and steady, as it always was ; and the utmost minuteness, both in orthography and punctuation, is manifest. . . . . . Brief, suggestive, and beautiful, this unerring note is one of the finest specimens of epistolary writing for a given object imaginable. Without effort, display, or circumlocution, but with the utmost delicacy and adroitness it goes direct to the heart of a disagreeable and disgraceful subject. The writer unreservedly avowing all, and anticipating all, appeals beyond the possibility of evasion to the very consciousness of the man he is addressing ; and stakes by a single turn of the pen his own reputation with the world on his worthiness of that man's friendship. The most accomplished artist in style, after weeks of the soberest consideration, and with reams of blundered manuscript before him, could do nothing finer. Upon the whole, we may pronounce this document conclusive. Robert Burns, in fact, notwithstanding his so-called 'drunken promise,' was no more drunken or dissipated in the injurious sense of these terms than Mr Clark himself, a gentleman of the highest respectability in Dumfries, might be. . . . . Thanks, Mrs Gladstone, for such brief testimony, not too late ; and we beseech you, Madam, to preserve this document with religious care as the most invaluable personal deposition to the public morality of one of the greatest of men."

Though this commentary is needlessly overstrained, it is we think, substantially just. The fact is now beginning to be all but universally admitted that "Burns never became habitually intemperate, or a lover of the bottle for its own sake," though "his extreme sociality often led him into excess."

Mrs Gladstone is the daughter of Burns's bosom friend. Miss Belle Clark, another daughter, was married to Dr Henry Duncan's eldest son, the late Rev. Dr George John C. Duncan, clerk to the English Presbyterian Church. She was the authoress of a very ingenious and clever work "Pre-Adamite Man." Mr. Clark was associated professionally with his father, Samuel Clark, senior, and his mother was Mary Wight, daughter of the Rev. Robert Wight, minister of St Michael's, 1731-1764.

The name Callan, a rare one in the district, appears repeatedly, as follows, on a group, consisting of a table and two headstones : Thomas Callan, a mason of the last century, who died 24th February 1802, aged 58, with Margaret Blain, his spouse ; Robert, their son, also a mason, died in the island of Jersey, 1st October 1812, aged 37 : a second, Thomas Callan, of the same trade, died 11th September 1843, aged 61 ; with Jean Brown, his spouse ; a third of the same name, and a son of the latter, but a cabinetmaker by occupation, who died at Annan, 20th November 1873, aged 53, with his wife, Helen Romney, who died at Carlisle: as respects the two latter, it is added, "and are here interred." Robert Love, who married Thomas Callan's daughter, Janet, is also buried beside the rest of the family. He died 26th March 1859, at the venerable age of 82. We recollect him well as a pleasant, intelligent man, who made a decent livelihood by honing razors at a period when shaving was all but universal. He was particularly fond of discussing politics from a Radical standpoint, and often his gibes at boroughmongers and sinecurists were not less incisive than the weapons which he sharpened. His wife and their daughter Jane, aged 30, are also named upon the altar-stone.

On a stone of tabular shape several relatives of the late Bailie Thomas D. Currie of Clerkhill are commemorated : Thomas Dickson, baker, died 28th January 1805, aged 81, with Elizabeth Clark his spouse ; Mary, their daughter, died at 24, Janet, another daughter, spouse of James M'Kay, died 19th December 1832, aged 78, and James, their son, died 26th March 1787, aged 31. Also Jonathan Currie, cattle-dealer, son-in-law of the said Janet Dickson (and father of Bailie Currie), died 19th September 1814, aged 31 ; John Nicholson, currier (the latter's stepfather), died 26th March 1840, aged 62, Helen, his daughter, aged 8 ; and "Mrs. Mary Nicholson, spouse of the above John Nicholson, formerly spouse of Jonathan Currie," an intelligent lady, who was fully four-score when she died, 19th February 1863. A memorial stone near by rises as a tribute to Bailie Currie's only son, Thomas Dickson Fergusson, who died in infancy 31st December 1861 ; and to Polly, eldest daughter of Captain R. H. Tulloch, died at Clerkhill House, 10th December 1872 —cut off after seeing seventeen summers "when in the very May-morn of delight."

On a handsome headstone we find the name of Isabella Johnstone, wife of Thomas Dickie, draper, died 10th June 1840, aged 32 ; also the names of their children, William died at 21, John at 18, and two others cut off in infancy. Mr. Thomas Dickie, who lies buried beside his second wife in St. Mary's Cemetery, was an intelligent public-spirited citizen ; he was for three years a bailie of the Burgh, and was for eleven years chairman of the Parochial Board, the duties of which he discharged with remarkable zeal and ability. He died 9th June 1866. About five years before Mr. Dickie's death a number of the ratepayers recognised his services by entertaining him at a public dinner, on which occasion Mr. Martin, Town-Clerk, the chairman, closed a suitable speech by happily applying the words of the Psalmist to their honoured guest, "Blessed is he who wisely doth the poor man's case consider." The Parochial Board is at present ably presided over by his successor, Mr. Alexander Crombie, architect.

We next reach a chain-protected plot where lie John Gregan, long a leading tradesman of the Burgh ; his spouse, Janet Edgar, and several of their children. Mr. Gregan was born at Preston Mill, Kirkbean, came to Dumfries when quite young, and in 1798 he joined with the late Bailie Creighton in starting a cabinet-making and upholstery business at Clerkhill, which eventually became the greatest establishment of the kind in Scotland, south of the Forth and Clyde. To their other occupations was added that of house carpentry, the joiner work of the new Assembly Rooms, and many mansions in Castle Street and other parts of the town and in the suburbs, having been executed by the firm. They helped to build the houses, and supplied such sumptuous furnishings for them, if required, as few provincial tradesmen of their day were able to emulate. Mr. Gregan was not only an excellent craftsman, but a gentleman of great general intelligence, and in every sense a good member of society. He was on very intimate terms with Allan Cunningham, whose bride was wooed and won at the little village where the former first saw the light; and he had much friendly as well as business intercourse with the ingenious Patrick Miller of Dalswinton. Mr. Gregan died 8th December 1853, when in his 83d year. The neat table monument, which bears his name, commemorates also his spouse, Janet Edgar, sprung from a family that has been settled in Carlaverock for seven centuries. She died 26th December 1827, aged 58. One of their sons is our philanthropic townsman Mr. William Gregan, who carries on the old business at Clerkhill and High Street with undiminished vigour and success. Another son, John Edgar Gregan, distinguished as an architect, died 29th April 1855, aged 42, and lies beside his parents; as do two others—a second John Gregan and Robert Edgar Gregan—who died in infancy.

After Mr. John E. Gregan had served his apprenticeship with Mr. Walter Newall, he went to Manchester as assistant to W. T. Atkinson, whom he succeeded in business in 1840. His career in that city, his professional eminence and his public services are so well described in *The Imperial Dictionary of Universal Biography* that we cannot do better than copy its notice of him, which is as follows:—"Mr. Gregan was a man of great industry as well as marked ability, and his merits found speedy recognition. Many of the buildings which during the next fifteen years so greatly altered the architectural character of Manchester were designed by him. Among them are Heywood's bank, a very stately and well-finished building of Venetian character; several of the palatial warehouses which are so striking a feature of the city; the Mechanics' Institution; the Jews' Schools; the Park Lodges; chapels at Ancoats, Green Heys, and several private residences of a superior order. He also erected churches, chapels, and schools, chiefly in the Gothic style, at Bolton, Cheshire, Preston, &c. Besides his immediately professional attainments, Mr. Gregan possessed considerable knowledge of the arts, and was active in promoting the local schools of design, the formation of a free library, and literary institutions generally. He was a fellow of the Institute of Architects."

With the extinct hat manufacture of Dumfries the Beatties were nearly as much bound up as the Balieffs. Some members of the former family are commemorated by a table and headstone—the oldest, Francis Beattie, who lived to be 86, having followed the occupation of a dyer, and died 1st January 1837. His spouse, Elizabeth Brown ; their daughter, Elizabeth Beattie, died 27th February 1862, aged 78 ; with a younger daughter, Margaret died at 22, being mentioned in the same inscription. A second one includes George Beattie, died 15th April 1819, aged 35 ; Francis Beattie, died at Port Hope, Upper Canada, 29th September 1828, aged 32 ; John Beattie, died January 12th 1854, aged 67 ; and John Thomson died 14th October 1832, aged 45—all of whom before their own heads were laid low carried on a respectable trade in fabricating "beavers" for "the heads of the people."

Another table commemorates Maxwell Wilson, shoemaker, died 28th January 1810, aged 85, with Margaret M'Master, his spouse, their children, Maxwell and William, died when infants, James, their son, who followed his father's trade, died 9th August 1864, at a still greater age, 88, with Janet Primrose, his spouse. The fragmentary inscription, "In memory of," appears on the head of a table in this subdivision, and after a wide interval the name "J. Pagan." This applies, we believe, to "Jamie Pagan" as he was usually termed, a well-connected but haverel sort of body, not overstocked with either siller or sense. He was long one of the "characters" of the Burgh at a time when there were more "innocents," oddities, and waifs going or floating about outside of Bedlam than is the case at present. Deep down below the footpaths of St. Michael's not a few of these poor creatures have found an asylum, where they rest as soundly as the most fortunate of their fellow-creatures in other portions of the Cemetery that are marked by "storied urn or animated bust." James Pagan is about the only one of them whose name finds a place in its obituary literature. With all his witlessness he had a wonderful perception of the flight of time : as all the boys of the locality knew, he was like a personified chronometer. On meeting with him they were in the habit of plying him with the query, "Jamie, what o'clock is't?" and his response, always readily given, was usually correct, though, we need scarcely say, he carried no watch in his pocket, but something equivalent to one in his own upper storey that was otherwise but poorly furnished.

Headstones arise in this subdivision to commemorate an industrious tradesman, Charles Robb, cabinetmaker, died 14th April 1839, aged 82, his wife, Elizabeth Reid, eight of their children, including William died at 24, Elizabeth, wife of Robert Reid, also a cabinetmaker, died 27th August 1840, aged 46; Ebenezer Irving, died 9th August 1794, aged 45, with Sarah Watson, his wife; Ann Milligan, spouse of Rawland Wilson, died 19th January 1800, aged 41; two brothers Nixon, Thomas died 16th October 1835, aged 48, John died 23d December 1837, aged 62; William Hyslop, mason, died 19th March 1843, aged 39, with Sarah Ballantine, his wife; Elizabeth Wright, spouse of Nathaniel Cowan, died 12th April 1815, aged 74, with four infant children of her brother William Wright, staymaker, by his wife, Mary Cowan, who is also named in the inscription, died 23d March 1823, aged 48; James Underwood, shoemaker, died 5th April 1837, aged 79, with Agnes Jardine his spouse, and four children, the eldest of whom died at 19; Nicholas M'Dowal, wife of William Brown, shoemaker, died 21st August 1827, aged 76, the following poetical tribute forming part of the inscription:

"No smarting pain, no faithless terrors come
To break thy slumbers in the peaceful tomb;
Nor mournful eye nor plaintive voice bemoan,
O, child of God! thy Saviour's presence gone:
Thy Lord appeared to hush thine every sigh,
To yield thee Faith's triumphant victory,
At ev'ning tide, ere to the realms of day,
Thy long-afflicted spirit hied away."

The bereaved husband lived till he was 83, his death occurring 18th October 1834.

CHAPTER XXIII.

BEHIND THE CHURCH—CONTINUED.

BAILIE John Key, progenitor of several distinguished merchants, is commemorated by a stone of tabular form; also his wife, Janet Thompson, and a number of their offspring. He died 9th April, 1790, aged 66. Their daughter, Elizabeth, was wedded to Charles Johnston, who carried on a mercantile establishment at Ostend, dying at Dumfries, 27th October 1792, aged 46—both being mentioned in the inscription; also, their daughter Janet, died at the age of 3. Adjoining, there rises a four-sided, urn-surmounted pillar, on the east side of which appears the name of "Alexander Key, Esq., merchant in London," who died at Cowhill, 21st October 1817, aged 57; also the name of his wife, Sarah Denholm, who died at Broomrig, 29th July 1805, aged 36. The north side records the name of Bailie Key's daughter Jane, died 17th November 1835, aged 67. On the south side appears the name of William Key, born in the Burgh, another City merchant, who died 10th August 1840, aged 70, and lies buried in the chancel vault of St. Martin's-in-the-Fields.

North of the Key memorials stand altar-stones bearing the following names: Sarah Parkins, spouse of James Newall, died 22d March 1837, aged 77, with their son James, aged 16; Eliza M'Caw, daughter of John Mosley M'Caw, Jamaica, aged 15; James Scott, joiner, died 23d March 1781, aged 40, with Elizabeth Mundell, his spouse, and several children, including Martha, aged 16, also Walter Scott, Deacon of the Shoemakers, died 30th March 1834, aged 65, with his wife, Sarah Hopkins, and it is stated that the tombstone was erected by his second wife, Elizabeth: a headstone adjoins, commemorating the worthy Deacon's daughter, aged 69, his son Thomas, also a "cordwainer," died 26th October 1816, aged 24, with three infant members of his household.

Robert Smith, coppersmith, died 5th September 1767, age not given, with Bethia Leckie, his spouse, and Bethia, their daughter, spouse to James Paterson, stocking manufacturer, died 28th November 1803, aged 75; Jean Welsh, spouse of James Grive, merchant, died 10th September 1795, aged 24, with their infant daughter Agnes, also Agnes Welsh, spouse to James Rae, baker, died 31st June 1815, aged 31, and Janet, daughter of Charles Donaldson, joiner, died 10th December 1848, aged 22; Samuel Paterson, joiner, died 21st October 1856, aged 74, with Anne Bell, his spouse, "She was a loving and virtuous wife, an affectionate mother, a sincere friend, and a pious Christian," and two children, the eldest, Mary, aged 6; Robert Gibson, flesher, died 20th October 1833, aged 64, with Sarah Reid, his spouse, and their son William, died in Portugal, 7th February 1835, aged 35; also two Roberts, youthful sons of Robert Gibson, shoemaker, and William, another son, died in the Bay of Bengal, 22d November 1849, aged 23; James Morine, another flesher, died 7th November 1853, aged 72, with Janet M'Minn, his spouse, their children—James died at Stranraer when 27, William died at Ferazapore, East Indies, aged 29, Robert 31, Ann, spouse of William Richardson, died 29th November 1862, aged 55; John Carlisle, vintner, died 30th December 1817, aged 30, David Forteath, died 3d May 1863, aged 72, the two husbands of Elizabeth M'Murray, who lies buried beside them, her death occurring 13th November 1864, when she was 72, the stone commemorating also her daughter, Mary Carlisle, who died at Barrow-on-Furness, 16th August 1865, aged 49; another vintner, William Hutchison, died 14th January 1815, aged 58, with Mary Dargavel, his spouse; Susan M'Kill, spouse of John Milroy of Tachar, died 11th October 1779, aged 61; Elizabeth, daughter of James Thomson, Plainstones, died in Edinburgh, 6th February 1846; Mary, daughter of Adam Borland, Kilmarnock, died 13th July 1873, aged 36; Alexander Lennox, died 20th February 1778, aged 26.

Fronting the northern walk a handsome little monument rises in a neatly kept compartment, the marble tablet telling that "Mrs. Janet M. T. Murdoch, late milliner," lies below. She died 13th March 1867, aged 56. It bears the name also of Agnes Aitken, wife of William Murdoch, clothier, died 1st July, 1872, aged 47. An additional inscription commemorates Robert Thomson, late farmer in Calside, died 11th December, 1819, aged 64 ; Janet Miller, his wife ; Robert Smith, builder, died 12th October 1834, aged 45 ; and Mary Hannay, his wife.

In the next plot, which fronts to the northern walk, lie the remains of Jane Burgess, wife of Mr. Alexander Crombie, architect, died 31st July, 1848, at the early age of 28.

An adjoining altar monument is inscribed as follows :

"Here lyes Mrs. Jean Martin, late spouse to John Clark, writer in Dumfries, who was a good wife, tender, affectionate, and charitable, and managed the affairs of her family with prudence and discretion. She had 8 sons and 6 daughters, and died lamented 12th February 1766."

The stone also commemorates James Clark, her son, died 21st November 1824, aged 75.

A humble table stone adjacent bears high historical names : it commemorates Sarah, daughter of Captain Alexander Douglas, and spouse of Lieutenant John Campbell, died 29th October, 1764, aged 21 ; the inscription stating that "Here also lyes Jean Carruthers, daughter of the late William Carruthers of Warmanbie, who died February 25 1773"—age not specified. Next to the above rises another table monument in memory of Elizabeth, daughter of William Johnstone of Bearholm, died 17th November, 1729, aged 51 ; Joseph Johnstone, surgeon, died 29th November 1774, aged 49 ; and Ann Johnstone, his spouse.

A youthful victim of small-pox is commemorated by a solid oblong block within an enclosure, which bears her name, Jean Hay, and the following beautiful tribute to her memory :

"If sense mature, even in the dawn of years ;
If beauty, youth, or innocence endears
Affections soft with manly spirit join'd,
With gentle manners, sentiments refined ;
If heaven-born piety serene yet bright ;
If filial tenderness the soul delight ;
If these united, claim the cordial tear,
Let feeling nature pay the tribute here."

She was the daughter of Sir Thomas Hay of Park, Bart., and died 20th February 1762, aged 11.

We now reach a range of four tables marking the spot where related families repose, one of them bearing the name of the oldest female of which we have yet obtained any trace in the Churchyard. It appears on the second stone, which commemorates Robert Tait, shoemaker, her husband, who died 19th May 1801, aged 80; his first wife, Mary M'Kie, died 2d November, 1751, aged 33; and the venerable matron referred to, Agnes Findlay, his second spouse, "who died Dec. the 17th 1801, aged 101 years." Born in 1700, when William of Orange occupied the British throne, Mrs. Tait *secundus* lived under the rule of five sovereigns, and, if a resident in the Burgh all that time, she would witness many local changes, such as the building of the Mid-Steeple, of the New Church, the rebuilding and spiring of St. Michael's Church, the formation of Queensberry Square, the embankment of the discursive Nith, the erection of the Caul over it, of the Grain Mills upon its right bank, and of the New Bridge by which it is spanned, the planting of the Dock trees, and the extension of the town by the opening of Queensberry Street and the carrying of the Kirkgate far past St. Michael's Church. Of many stirring events the old lady might have been able to speak from personal observation: the dreams of her early childhood may have been broken by the alarming anti-Union disturbances at the Market Cross in 1707; she would probably recollect till her latest day the crucible of terror into which the Jacobites of 1715 threw the town; she may have seen "Royal Charlie" with his Highlanders in actual possession of it; possibly enough her own gudeman may have been "airt and pairt" in the Pyet riot with which the whole country side rang at Michaelmas 1759; and her recollection would embrace such far-separated conflicts as the fight at Sheriffmuir and the battle of the Nile.

William Lookup, tailor, who married Robert Tait's daughter, is named upon the same tombstone, died 28th July 1815, aged 61; also a son of the former, same name and trade, died 25th June 1827, aged 51, his wife, Janet M'Dowall, and their sons—Joseph died at 14, John at 41. The other inscriptions commemorate Alexander Smith, flesher, died 6th September

1812, aged 27, with Mary Johnston, his wife; Joseph, an infant son; James Douglas, coppersmith, died 12th October 1786, aged 72—"An honest man the noblest work of God"—with Mary Gibson, his spouse, and their son Ebenezer, died on the passage from Jamaica 6th April 1796, aged 27; George Hair, son of Ninian Hair, died at St. Thomas, Jamaica, 27th February 1812, aged 23; Alexander Hair, who died at 13; and three other children cut off in infancy An adjoining headstone rises in memory of Janet Hair, her husband James Galloway, baker, died 23d January 1871, aged 72, and three of their children, including Sarah, who died at 18; also his second wife Mary Carlyle.

Another venerable fabric, similar in shape, bears the following inscription: "Here lyes John Thomson, merchant, who departed this lyfe the 23 of Nov. 1734, aged 74; also in this place lyes William Thomson, his son, writer in Dumfries, who died Februarye 21, 1733, and of his age 25 yers." Other names appear upon the stone: Margaret Fergusson, the above merchant's spouse; George Christie, baker, his son-in-law, died 15th November 1812, age not stated, with Grizel Thomson, his spouse; and a second George Christie, their son, who died 6th January 1844, aged 75. In an adjoining enclosure lie other Thomsons of the same family, two commemorative tablets rising above their remains; one of which bears the name of James Thomson, died 13th April 1763, aged 60, and that of his wife, Janet Wright; the other dedicated to Captain James Thomson and Jean Johnston, his wife, the former of whom died some time in October 1798, the precise day and date of age being illegible; also Mary, their daughter, died 2d January 1821, aged 44.

On one of a group of three family altar-stones we read the familiar name of Archibald Hamilton, writer, who died 14th August 1851, aged 55. He was a well-informed, warm-hearted gentleman, with strong Conservative views in matters of Church and State. Long an elder in St. Michael's, and a member of the Town Council, he also officiated for several years as Dean of Guild. He was about the biggest burgess of his day—his outward man resembling to no small extent that of Captain Grose, as described by Burns, whom he resembled also in geniality of disposition. The inscription also commemorates his father, William Hamilton, merchant, and his mother, Deborah Crosbie, the former of whom died 27th June 1799, aged 33. Another of the stones bears the names of James Ritchie, mason, died 22d December 1810, aged 32 ; Jean Hamilton, his spouse ; Janet, their daughter, died 13th November, 1842, aged 56 ; and Elizabeth, another daughter, died 8th May, 1851, aged 68. Their youngest son, William Hamilton Ritchie, still survives at an advanced age. He received his education and served his apprenticeship in Dumfries, and proceeding to Dunbar when quite a youth, he soon acquired a high position in that burgh. For sixty-three years he has officiated as Town-Clerk, during a large proportion of which period he has also acted as agent for the Commercial Bank. Mr. W. H. Ritchie is deservedly much respected in Dunbar, and is in every way a credit to the Queen of the South. William Crosbie, mariner, died 17th August, 1862, aged 62, with Margaret Sewell and their son Robert, a youth of 13, are named on the third stone of the series.

Robert Mitchell, Deacon of the Shoemakers, lies buried beneath a table-stone near by, with Mary Brice, and four of their children. He died 17th October, 1832, aged 72. Neighbouring headstones bear names long well known in the same trade, some of whose descendants are still pursuing it in the Burgh. Among these we find two John Andersons, father and son ; the elder died 12th May, 1844, aged 55 ; the younger 22d February 1860, aged 41 ; also, Robert Scott Anderson, a brother of the latter, died 17th October, 1860, aged 34. Agnes Scott, to whom the first John Anderson was "jo," lies interred beside him, together with her father, Robert Scott, also a "cordwainer," died 17th December 1840, aged 84, with Agnes Roan, his spouse ; also, John Roan, died 21st May 1783, aged 63, with Agnes Bell, his spouse, and four of their children, whose ages are not recorded ; Janet Wallace, his second wife, and a second Robert Scott died 6th May 1866, aged 52, with three of his children, Alexander died at 9, Isabella at 17, and the third in infancy.

Robert Scott, *secundus*, who here lies so low, played the part of the Shoemaker King at the last Crispin Procession in Dumfries 1863.

For several generations the name of Thorburn was closely associated with the tanning trade of the Burgh. Thomas Thorburn and William Thorburn, who carried on an extensive business in that line, lie in the next compartment. The former died 3d October 1832; the latter 11th December, 1832, age not stated in either case. William Thorburn's wife, Mary Brand, is buried beside him; and a neighbouring thrugh bears the names of her grandfather, William Brand, merchant, died 5th January, 1742, aged 74, and grandmother, Janet Mounsey, died 23d July, 1765, aged 80; also, James Brand of Drumclyer, their son, merchant, died 17th January 1792, aged 76. Mrs. Brand was nearly related to the great projector, William Paterson, whose eldest sister, Janet, was married to Thomas Mounsey of Skipmyre.

We find the name Barbara Mouncy on a table-stone a little further south, where she is mentioned as the wife of David Glen, writer, who died 7th June 1809, aged 72. Mr. Glen was of diminutive stature. A tall professional brother with whom he had a quarrel on one occasion told him if he would not be quiet he would put him in his pocket. "If you do," wittily retorted Mr. Glen, "you will have more law in your pocket than ever you had in your head." His son David, also a writer, died 4th June 1817, aged 37, is also mentioned on the monument. Next to it there is a thrugh commemorating the father of the first-mentioned David Glen, also of the same name, and an innkeeper by occupation. He died 28th October 1746, aged 62; his wife, Agnes Corsane, related probably to the family who long bore magisterial rule over the Burgh, died 5th June 1741, aged 45, lies buried beside him.

A neat headstone, with graceful floral carving, bears the names of Joseph Craik, merchant, and his two children Margaret Janet, died at 13, and John Torrance at 22. He died 2d June 1870, aged 46. His parents and other relatives are commemorated by a slab in front: John Craik died 7th

December, 1819, aged 72; his spouse, Mary M'Millan; their son James, died 24th July 1831, aged 37; and his wife, Mary Edgar.

To the memory of a worthy man, Thomas Hogg, stamp-master, a similar stone is devoted, which bears the following lines, the last four of which have been borrowed from Pope's well-known epitaph on Goldsmith:

"In this blest grave, amid whose favouring gloom
Mem'ry still loves to guard her votary's tomb,
Shall I withhold what all his virtues claim:
The sacred tribute to a father's name?
Whose manners gentle, his affections mild,
In wit a man, in simplicity a child,
Above temptation in a humble state,
And uncorrupted even among the great."

Mr. Hogg died 12th August, 1828, aged 57. His wife Margaret Haddon and their son William Charters are named in the inscription: and it is stated that the stone was erected by another son, John. On a slab in front is inscribed "F. C. in 1723;" also the name of Isabella Sanders, daughter of Thomas Hogg, died 24th November, 1862, aged 48; and the words "the property of Robert Gibson Hogg, Kingston-upon-Thames, Surrey." A neighbouring headstone commemorates Alexander Young, Supervisor of Excise, Dumfries, died 30th September, 1819, aged 44; Margaret, his daughter; also Eleanor, "the beloved wife" of John Tusting, officer of Excise, died 23d March, 1840, aged 29. Southward a little appears a stone of similar shape, erected in memory of Janet Moodie, wife of another Excise officer, Supervisor James Palmer, died 2d December 1848, aged 55.

Nearly two hundred years ago, as mentioned in a preceding chapter, Dumfries was ruled over by Provost Thomas Rome; and the family name, long not uncommon in the Burgh, is now rare. On a neighbouring headstone we read of two George Romes, father and son. The elder was of Frankfield, and died 16th January 1866, aged 81; the latter was little more than half that age when he died, 4th January 1865, aged 41. We have sought with indifferent success throughout the Cemetery for some monumental record of the M'Brairs, a family that were for many generations still more influential and opulent in the district than the Romes, and who indeed occupied a vanward place among the patrician fathers of the Burgh. Between 1469 and 1581 at least six of them bore rule as provosts. Of tenements in the town, and of broad acres on the banks of Nith and Urr, they, down till about two hundred years ago, owned an extraordinary share ; but of their dwellings in this city of the dead scarcely a trace is visible, though we know with certainty that many of them lie fathom-deep or more below its turf. The patronymic appears once, and, so far as we have seen, once only in the records of the Cemetery, that are above the surface, but other stones, we may be sure, are inscribed with the name that have been buried beside the bones of those who bore it and moulder away together. On an altar stone a few yards east of Bailie Key's conspicuous monument, we read of Janet M'Brair as the wife of Thomas Dickson, Hightown of Craigs: she lived to be 85, her death occurring 11th November, 1845; her husband having predeceased her so far back as 8th March, 1802, when he was 56 : their son, John Dickson, Hightown of Craigs, died at Jennygill 30th June 1870, aged 84, is also named in the inscription.

Two tables adjoin, displaying the name of Burgess, which is still frequently met with in the Burgh, though not so much so as it was last century. One of the stones commemorates William Burgess, died 3d April 1807, aged 74 ; his wife, Janet Douglas ; John Burgess, smith, died 3d June 1833, aged 72 ; and his wife, Margaret Goldie. The other stone rises in memory of Robert Burgess, hosier, died 12th February 1829, aged 57 ; his spouse, Mary Fraser ; and their daughter, Jessy, aged 10.

A very handsome canopied monument is next arrived at "Sacred to the memory of John Learmont, who died 20th July 1866, aged 88 years ; and Sarah Brown, his wife, who died 13th October 1842, aged 58 years." Above the spacious marble tablet, which bears the inscription, appears an angelic figure, finely carved, with a scroll having written upon it the words "The just shall live by faith;" while on the foot of the panel another cheering passage of Scripture is engraved, "For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with Him." Mr. Learmont followed the most ancient of all occupations, that of "the grand old gardener," Adam. Many acres within and around the Burgh were "subdued" by his skilful and industrious hand. So far back as 1812 he took a prominent part in founding the Dumfriesshire and Galloway Horticultural Society, which still flourishes under a somewhat different name; and throughout his long career he was a leading horticulturist, and held in high respect by the general community. The names of five of his children are also inscribed on the monument: John, aged 20; Mary, 16; Thomas Watson Kirkpatrick, 24; Janet, 61; and George, who successfully prosecuted his father's profession, died 30th June 1874, aged 61. Mrs. Halliday, a surviving daughter, is the widow of Mr. James Halliday, builder, whose monument has been already noticed.

Among the Dumfries merchants who flourished towards the end of the seventeenth century, and during the first half of the eighteenth, were several members of the Corrie family, who took their name from the old Annandale parish of Corrie (a Celtic compound, signifying a narrow glen), and one of whom, Walter de Corrie, was governor of Dumfries Castle in 1291-2. They intermarried with the Bells, Dicksons, Lawsons, Goldies, Ewarts, Edgars, and Crosbies of their own high standing in the Burgh. James Corrie was Provost in 1718-19-20, and enjoyed the same honour for two other triennial periods ending with 1736. His brother Joseph was Town-Clerk for some time afterwards; a son of the latter, also named Joseph, subsequently filled the office, and on him the perilous duty devolved of reading the Riot Act from the Council-house window during the Pyet and Corbie riots of September 1759. The name is not unfrequently met with in the graveyard literature of St. Michael's, and some leading members of the family lie below a series of five old stones, three tabular and the other two slabs, which have been more injured by the irreverent feet of visitors than by the hand of Time. We give the inscriptions *verbatim:*

1. "Here lyes William Corrie, late Bailie of Drumfries, who departed this life on the 10 day of June 1709, and of his age 59."

"Heir lyes the corps of William Corrie, who departed this life the 18 of Decr. 170–, of age 16 years; sone to William Corrie, late Bailie of Drumfries."

"Buried here Jean Mathison, the wife of William Corrie, merchant. She died Oct. 4 1774, age 45 years 11 months."

2. "Here are buried Jean Paterson, wife of William Corrie, who died 29 May 1715; Joseph Corrie, his son, Town-Clerk, he died 17th Feby. 1750, aged 60; Jean Goldie, his first wife, who died 4 July 1733, aged 31; Marion Crosbie, his second wife—she died 13 Decr. 1760; Joseph Corrie, the son of Wm. Corrie, mercht., who died 13 August, 1772, aged 17; William Corrie of Ridbank, son of Joseph Corrie and Jean Goldie, died in London 15th April 1777, aged 56, and was interred in Bunhill Fields burial ground."

3. "Here lyes the coarps of Margaret Lauson, who departed this life anno 1703, aged 18 mounths; and the corps of William Lauson, who departed this life in anno 1706, aged 14 mounths; and the corps of John Lauson, who departed this life in anno 1709, aged one year: children of Heugh Lawson, merchant in Drumfries. Here lyes Agnes, Elizabeth, Grizell, and Agnes Lausons."

"Here lyes interred the body of Margaret Lawson, daughter of Hugh Lawson, late merchant in Dumfries, who died the 18th of November, 1745, in the 30th year of her age."

4. "Here lyes the corps of Hugh Lauson, merchant, who departed this life June 20th, 1720, aged 52 years."

"Also here lyes Grizall Corrie, relict of Hugh Lawson, merchant, who departed this life 13 of March 1728, and of her age the 50 year."

"Here lyes Agnes M'Kitirick, spouse to James Corrie, late Provost of Drumfries, who dye the 20th December 1721, aged 31 yeares and 3 months."

"Here lyes Margaret Philip wife of Joseph Corrie, Town Clerk, who died 20th May, 1763."

Among the family group thus enumerated lies also their most distinguished member, Provost Corrie, a stone marking the spot, which bore the following tribute to his worth:

"Here lyes James Corrie of Speddoch, merchant, who often enjoyed and faithfully discharged the office of chief magistrate within this burgh. During a long and deserved trust he acted with prudence and moderation, and a steady zeal for the public interest Active, assiduous, enterprising, he happily devised and successfully pursued the most commendable methods in business, revived declining trade, and by his example stimulated an industrious emulation in others. In every respect, for it was his ambition, he truly promoted the general weal. Having joined to an unblemished integrity those rare abilities which rendered him amiable and useful in life, in death justly regretted as a good man, a sincere friend, and a worthy citizen. He died November 8, 1742, aged 59. Also Janet Goldie, his spouse, who died 27th June, 1762, aged 61 years, a wife worthy of such a husband."

The visitor to St. Michael's will look in vain for the foregoing inscription, it having been very improperly obliterated some years ago: for the copy here given we are indebted to Dr. W. G. Dickson, 3 Royal Circus, Edinburgh, who has also favoured us with the subjoined notes regarding the family pedigree, which help to illustrate the preceding inscriptions: Provost James Corrie married Janet Goldie of Craigmuie. His son, Hugh Corrie, married Miss Collow of Auchenchain, and had for issue Thomas Corrie of Newton-Aird and Steilston, and a daughter, married to James Connel of Conheath. Joseph Corrie, brother of James, married Jean Goldie of Craigmuie. His son William was wedded to Helen Edgar, of Redbank: whence the Corries of Liverpool and London. The other son, Joseph, who married Margaret Philp, had a daughter who married Hope Vere of Craighall. A daughter became the wife of the Rev. John Ewart, minister of Troqueer, whose grandson, William Ewart, was long member for the Dumfries Burghs. Another daughter married John Gilchrist, son of Ebenezer Gilchrist, M.D. The Jean Paterson named in the second inscription was of Skipmyre, the sister of, or otherwise nearly related to, the famous projector of the Darien scheme.

Further east there are two tables, not so ancient as the preceding, beneath which lie the remains of some who were kith and kin to the Corries. The stones commemorate Bailie William Bell, merchant (brother, we presume, of George Bell of Conheath, Provost during the Jacobite occupation in 1745), who died 13th November 1766, aged 35; his daughter, Miriam, died 20th October 1775, aged 24; and Bailie James Bell (another brother?), died 31st December 1753.

We find a date still older than any of the foregoing on another time-shaken table, which is thus inscribed:

"Here lyes Robert Bailie, merchand Burges of this Burg, who depairted this life upon the 28 day of august, 1685 years, and of his age 36.—Here lyes also Janet Bailie, spouse to John Fullerton. merchande of this Burghe, who depairted this life upon the 31 day of May 1714 years, and of his age 33 years."

An inscription follows of a less ancient type in memory of Robert Threshie, Deacon of the Tailors, died 5th June 1819, aged 77; of Margaret Gibson, his spouse; of Mary Threshie, their daughter, spouse of George Blount, died 10th April 1844, aged 73; of Robert, son of the latter, died 4th July 1852, aged 53; and of Margaret, their daughter, who died in childhood. Deacon Threshie was father of Robert Threshie of Barnbarroch, County Clerk, and Commissary Clerk of Dumfriesshire, whose monument is noticed at page 39.

Additional headstones in this part of the section tell of Richard Irving, mariner, died at Liverpool 11th February 1876, aged 78, "but here interred," his wife, Agnes Anderson, their son Richard, who also died at Liverpool, aged 37; of Jane Marchbank, wife of John Richardson, Kingholm Quay, died 29th April 1868, and two of their children; of Charles Bowman, weaver, died 8th May 1732, aged 55, Agnes Miller, his spouse, their son Samuel died 4th August 1791, aged 75, and a grandson William, who died at 9; of Mark Richardson, Greenbrae, died 16th November 1858, aged 52; of Margaret, infant daughter of Matthew O'Farrell; and of John William Winzer, another infant, above whose name a cross is inscribed. The resting place of Robert Robertson, died 22d July 1850, aged 94; of his spouse Mary Edgar; and of several relatives, is indicated by a double headstone, the obituary including their children, Thomas, aged 13, William, 10, Robert, 13: also John Robertson (brother of Robert?), died June 16th, 1872 aged 83, his wife, Mary Campbell; and James Richardson, died 5th July 1836, aged 23.

We have already seen where some whose business it was to furnish the staff of life are located in this commonwealth of the dead; but not till now have we noticed any names associated with the old term "baxter." Richard Dickson, baxter, paid his quotum of ten shillings towards the Jacobite tribute money in 1745. He died in 1784, aged 63, and lies below a tabular tomb-stone, together with his wife, Helen Beatty. Her brother, Andrew Beatty, merchant, died 4th October, 1750, aged 60, and with his spouse, Jean Johnstone, rests beneath an adjoining monument similar in form. On a table near by we read of "Thomas Edgar, baxter, son of the deceast," John Edgar, died 10th September, 1744, aged 18 also of two children of Deacon Thomas Nairn, saddler, Jean, died 14th April 1819, aged 70, Thomas, died 6th February 1829, aged 66. Another stone commemorates Thomas Nairn himself, who was Deacon of the Hammermen, with Jean Edgar, his wife, and their children, Jane died at 3, Susan at 4, and John at 22. His death occurred 23d September 1794, aged 73. The stone, a tabular one, bears to have been erected by Mary Nairn, the Deacon's daughter, whose name also appears upon it, died 21st March 1832, aged 71. She will be well remembered by many of our older townspeople as the douce, obliging, clever landlady of the Coffee-House tavern, and who was supposed to resemble in many respects the Auld Nanse Tinnock of Burns's verse.

Another tribune of the Crafts and therefore a Town Councillor, lies not far off; but the supports of his monument, meant to keep his memory green, are now laid above it so as to hide the inscription which tells that Robert Blackstock, Deacon of the Shoemakers, and his wife Elizabeth, are buried here. He died 12th February 1728. John Blackstock, his son, we believe, presided as Convener of the Seven Trades, at the competition for the Silver Gun, 4th June 1781. John was simply a deacon in 1777. He is depicted by Mayne as being present at the Siller Gun banquet of that year.

"Convener Tamson mens'd the board,
Where sat ilk Deacon like a lord.
John Blackstock raise and waved his sword
In loyal glee;
'God save the King' was thrice encor'd,
Wi' three times three."

On a table-stone adjoining, we find the name of John Neilson, who died 3d August 1824, aged 54. When working as a mason at a new house in St. Michael's Street, a heavy cornice fell upon him, causing his instantaneous death. His widow, Sarah Gordon, died 5th April 1847, aged 71; their son John died 13th March 1869, aged 66; their daughter Mary died 17th February, 1870, aged 65; and another daughter, Agnes, spouse to James Edgar, mason, with other children, are also mentioned on the monument.

"Blin' Tam," who is but a traditionary personage to the people of the present generation, made a great clamour in his day, the duty of ringing the town bells having been discharged by him for more than sixty years prior to 1825. When quite a child he was robbed of sight by small-pox, and on growing up he could not remember experiencing the luxury of having looked upon the beauties of the external world, or what would have been to him more lovely, the face of the mother who held him at her breasts and who had dandled him on her knee. The education of young Wilson for that was his name—was not neglected, however, and at an early age he manifested a faculty for mechanics, which, spite of his blindness, he turned to good practical account. He found the elevated yet humble position which he afterwards reached congenial to his taste; and the hunchback Quasimodo of Victor Hugo was no more the presiding spirit of Notre Dame than was the blind bell-ringer of Dumfries the *genus loci* of the Mid-Steeple. In his more veteran days, but while yet vigorous, his portrait was finely sketched as follows by our accomplished townsman, Mr. Robert Carruthers of Inverness:

"For long and many a year has Tam pursued
His trade of ringing bells and shaping wood.
But more than this—a public man is he;
Noise in the world he makes, and loyal glee.
Each king's birth-day the steeple's highest height
He mounts, and stands triumphant in the light:
Fires his old gun (which more than thirty years
He thus has shot, exempt from age's fears),
And waves his hat—a spectacle might draw
The admiration of each passing *craw!*
When Britain's triumph warmed each generous heart,
Tam, in his glory, bore a public part;
When with each morning news of victory came,
And British valour fanned the patriot flame,
Our festive parties Tom essayed to cheer:
The flag was hoisted and the bells rung clear,
And fast and merrily he climbed the stair
To strike the peal and toast the warriors there."

It is recorded of Tam that during his whole life he only made a single business slip, and that was by ringing the ten o'clock bell an hour too late; the reason assigned by him for the mistake, when rallied upon it, being that he must have been "fey that nicht." The following passage from the obituary notice of him in the *Courier* is well worth quoting: "About fifteen years ago the Mid-Steeple was thoroughly repaired, and a splendid new cock substituted in the place of the previous old and clumsy weather vane—a great event for Blind Tom. The Steeple was in a great measure his domicile, and he who had so much to do with the base could not but be attentive to the ornaments of the capital. Up therefore he would go to the top, and though repeatedly warned against the dangers he would run, he actually accomplished the perilous enterprise, threw his arms around the bonny bird, and bestowed upon him a benediction to this effect, That he might long continue to indicate as truly the four airts as he himself indicated the time of day."

Tam rung strangely out of tune at ten o'clock on another night than the one already referred to. The peal was so jarring and fitful that many folks wondered if the douce rope-puller had once again become *fey*. A popular old ballad tells how "Every jow that the muckle bell gaed, cried 'Wae for Barbara Allan,'" and though there was no malison like this in the language of the chime, "Death, in the words of the same ancient effusion, "was wi' him dealin'," and the poor old man was literally ringing his own knell.

Humble in condition though Tom was, his moral worth, combined with his official position as a servant of the Burgh, secured for him a public funeral, which is thus described by the local journalist:—"The remains of our singular and unequalled bellman were interred on Thursday, the 14th curt., under circumstances highly creditable to the feelings of our townsmen. The funeral was attended by, at least, *three hundred* individuals, including the magistrates, clergy, surgeons, professional gentlemen, and many of the most respectable merchants in town; and it was generally admitted that no similar event, since the death of Burns, had excited anything like the same interest. As the procession moved slowly along, the windows and streets were filled with spectators on every side; and as the Mid-Steeple bells tolled at intervals (a mark of respect which is never paid to private individuals) every one thought of the veteran ringer who commenced his labours more than half a century ago, and discharged his duties to the last with such undeviating strictness that even *Death* found him at his post. Among the chief mourners we observed Provost Thomson and Captain M'Dowall; and altogether old Thomas Wilson, who, in allusion to the boys that followed him to the steeple, used to boast that he had instructed three different generations of ringers, was as much honoured when dead as he was respected when living. A decent tombstone is to be erected to his memory, the subscriptions to which are fast filling up, and which will add to the numerous other attractions of a churchyard which excites the wonder of every stranger, both for the number and elegance of its monuments."

A neat little headstone which marks his grave near the footpath on the north bears the following inscription:

> "Erected by a few of his many friends, and sacred to the memory of Thomas Wilson, who departed this life the 10th of April 1825, aged 75 years. He for the long period of sixty-three years summoned the lieges to labour and repose with the regularity of the clock itself, and may almost be said to have died at his post. It is calculated and believed that he rang the bells of Dumfries more than one hundred thousand times. He was quite blind from his infancy, was a faithful servant, a kind-hearted, honest, and industrious man, one that feared God and honoured the King."

In this section of the grounds the death emblems that were common for some centuries before the current one are rarely met with. We find some of them, however, grotesquely displayed on an antique little tombstone which marks the dusty bed of Robert Hunter, burgess, who departed this life 29th December 1735, aged 56. A skull and crossbones, a pair of disconsolate cherubs, and a winged head, intended, we suppose, to suggest the idea of heaven, though it does not wear a very etherial aspect, figure upon the stone; but the rude sculpture, while striving to shadow forth life eternal as well as death, is showing unmistakable symptoms of its own mortality. A more modern inscription has been added to commemorate James Sturgeon, innkeeper, died 23d December 1792, aged 68. Another small stone that has experienced still greater dilapidation rises a few yards further north. The head of the destroying angel, which once stood out in bold relief, is now but as the shadow of a shade, and the symbolic sandglass which accompanied it has itself run to sand. The stone is, however, still able to announce the bereavement suffered by William Johnstone and his spouse, Catherine Lockhart, when their daughter Margaret was taken from them, so far back as October 1722.

Other headstones round about bear the following names: Margaret Grier, spouse of James Pain, shoemaker, died 1st December 1813, aged 53; also Lillie Grier, wife of Benjamin Carruthers, died 16th July 1798, aged 51; George Haining, tailor, died 14th March 1843, aged 40, with his wife, Janet Sorbie; Matthew Wilson, died 6th January 1830, aged 77, with Agnes Maxwell, his spouse, their daughter Elizabeth, died at 58, and their grandson, Thomas Hetherington, died at 36; Thomas Welsh, shoemaker, died 15th March 1793, aged 56, with Agnes M'Kie, his wife, their children, Charles died at 9, David in infancy, and Elizabeth, a granddaughter, at 8; William M'Kendrick, died 16th February 1819, his son, Matthew, plasterer, died 2d December 1858, with the wife of the latter, Helen Stewart, all dying at a good old age, 87, 86, and 87 respectively, also Matthew's daughter Jean Burns, so called after Burns the poet and his Bonnie Jean; Peter Milligan, saddler, died 15th May 1862, aged 56, with James, his son, aged 4; Thomas Russell, nailer, died 10th February 1859, aged 59, with Isobell Dingwall, his spouse, and Thomas, their son, who followed his father's trade, and died 23d October 1869, aged 66; the loss of three children by John Gowan, and of other three by Thomas Buie, is indicated on other headstones of the section.

CHAPTER XXIV.

BEHIND THE CHURCH—CONTINUED.

NEAR the corner, between the footpaths north and east, a handsome pyramid towers up, which is thus inscribed :

"Sacred to the memory of James Grant, writer, a young man of a generous disposition and very promising talents, who died on the 8th of June 1819. Altho' he had not attained his 22d year, not one of his relations survived him ; his acquaintances therefore, who sincerely deplore his loss, have erected this as a memorial of their regard for his memory.

' The grave is but our bed,
'Tis but a night—
A long and moonless night.' "

The first Secession congregation formed in Dumfries was that of Loreburn Street, which dates from 1759. Its first minister was the Rev. Thomas Herbertson, and its second was the Rev. William Inglis, who lies in the adjoining plot. He was a native of Leslie, in Fifeshire, and was ordained over the congregation in 1765. He frequently numbered among his hearers Robert Burns, who had a sitting in his church, though the poet's family pew was in St. Michael's. Between the bard and the minister there was a considerable amount of intimacy. Mr. Inglis was such a good man, as well as able preacher, that Burns, who had little respect for the clergy in general, viewed his character with admiration. When the poet was on one occasion questioned about his attendance at "The meeting house," his reply was, "I go to hear Mr. Inglis because he preaches what he believes, and practices what he preaches." The deceased minister is commemorated both by a table monument and one of a more ambitious design in the Gothic style. The first bears also the name of his spouse, Elizabeth Simson, died 8th November, 1814, aged 68 : Of him, says the inscription, "it may be said with truth he was (Romans xii., 11-12), 'fervent in spirit, serving the Lord, rejoicing in hope, patient in tribulation, continuing instant in prayer." Helen, their eldest daughter, died 10th April 1822, and Katherine, their third daughter, wife of the Rev. Robert Gellatly, Mainsriddle, died 18th September 1839, are also mentioned in the inscription. The principal monument bears the following tribute:

> "Sacred to the memory of the Rev. William Inglis, minister of the First United Associate congregation of Dumfries, who died on the 10th of May, 1826, in the 85th year of his age, and 62d of his ministry. He was possessed of an amiable temper, and of a peculiar suavity of manners, which endeared him to all who had the pleasure of his acquaintance: as a minister he was a fearless reprover of vice, a faithful promoter of virtue, assiduous and punctual in the discharge of all his various duties; he was a steady and sincere friend, a loving and affectionate husband, a tender father, an exercised Christian, and an honest man. He lived greatly beloved, and died deeply regretted. Erected by the congregation in testimony of their esteem."

The Rev. James Clyde, who married the daughter of Mr. Inglis, became his successor in the pastorate: one of their children is the well-known scholar, James Clyde, LL.D. At present the congregation is ministered to by the Rev. D. L. Scott and his colleague, the Rev. George Rae, M.A.

Further west, rises a stately Gothic structure, on which the winged spur of the Annandale Johnstones and their motto "Nunquam non paratus" are engraved. It bears the name of William Jardine, surgeon, royal navy, who counted kinship with another Annandale sept, the Jardines of Applegarth, died 12th January 1823, aged 64; also the names of his wife, Ann Dow, of their daughter Ann, and of her husband, David Johnstone, long a leading writer and much-respected citizen of Dumfries. Mr. Johnstone died 20th January 1861, aged 70. A gracefully-shaped sarcophagus stands in front of the monument, overlooking a slab meant to commemorate John Jardine, father of William, but the inscription upon it is not very legible.

A neat monument near by bears the name of Samuel Dickson, jeweller, died 5th March 1859, aged 46, of whom the inscription truly says, "He was a kind father, an affectionate husband, and much respected by all who knew him." Mr. Dickson's wife, Mary M'Cormick, died 10th October 1832, in her 19th year; his second wife, Annie Milroy, died 21st October 1871, aged 54, with six of his children, are also named in the inscription, including Thomas Milroy, died at 6, Thomas H. Ferguson, at 17, William Scott, at 19, and

James M'Lachlan, lost at sea, aged 23. An adjoining headstone rises to commemorate Thomas Milroy, joiner, father of Annie Milroy, died 21st February 1845, aged 57; his wife, Beatrice Riddick; and their daughter, Euphemia, aged 32.

Whether or not John Hyslop, who was tenant of the Globe Tavern, Dumfries, when it used to be frequented by Burns, is a death-long tenant of St. Michael's Cemetery, we are unable to say, no trace of him appearing on any of its monuments, nor yet of his wife, or their niece, "Anna of the gowden locks." The next landlord of the "howf" was, we believe, named Ewing, and some of his successors lie in the ground now reached—the headstone over them commemorating Andrew Graham, innkeeper, died 31st May 1819, aged 48; "Mary Carruthers, his spouse, of the Globe Inn," died 28th February 1860, aged 87; Andrew, their son, died 27th April 1841, aged 33, John, another son, died 24th April 1846, aged 48; and Elizabeth Graham, their daughter, also of the Globe, died 8th February 1870, aged 70. The present owner and occupier of the famous tavern is Mrs. Murray.

Farther west a few yards rises a very neat head-stone—adorned with a floral device—in memory of Mary M'Lauchlan, wife of Andrew Nicholson, shoemaker, died 31st August 1860, aged 71. The deceased, when young, was in the service of James M'Clure, letter-carrier, the devoted attendant of Burns on his death-bed, who gave valuable assistance to Cromek when that indefatigable collector was preparing his "Reliques of Burns," and whose memorial stone, as we have already seen, lies within the enclosure of the Mausoleum. At his death in 1813 Mrs. Burns took her friend's servant into her own household, and finding her sensible and trustworthy, treated her more as a companion than as a dependant. Soon after, the widow of the poet got some new parlour furniture, and as a consequence part of the old plenishing that had been used at Ellisland was placed in the garret of the house. One day Mrs. Burns, pointing to six of the ancient chairs, a table, and some other articles stored away in the attics, said to her servant, "Now, Mary, these things are to be yours for setting up house wi' whenever ye get a husband," the idea never entering Bonnie Jean's mind, we believe, that, like Aladdin's Lamp, the old was incomparably more precious than the new. Accordingly, when Mary M'Lauchlan was married her kind mistress gave her the said relics; and those of them (nearly all) which still remain with her surviving husband, Andrew Nicholson, are justly viewed by him as priceless treasures. Mr. Nicholson, now far advanced in years, is still wonderfully hale, and is much respected by his neighbours. He has, among other memorials of the national bard, a most characteristic letter dated "Ellisland, Friday, 12th Sept. 1788," addressed by the farmer-poet to his newly-wedded wife a few days before her arrival in Nithsdale, and which was first published by Mr. Hately Waddell, who, when commenting upon it, says of Mr. Nicholson: "The loyalty of this man's devotion to the memory of Burns is an honour to Dumfries and to his native country."

Walter Campbell, a respectable teacher of the old school, whose memory is still cherished by not a few surviving pupils, receives commemoration from a headstone near by. For him the school of life was closed, and he entered on the long, long vacation 20th October 1858, at the age of 73. Beside him lie Mary M'William his spouse; also, their sons, Walter, who died at 15, and Joseph at 5. Another stone of a similar form marks where lie the remains of another schoolmaster, Alexander Welsh Affleck, who was engaged for half a century in "teaching the young idea how to shoot." He died 13th October 1856, aged 78. The inscription states that "He was a successful teacher in Dumfries for 50 years; respected by his pupils and all who knew him; a kind friend and an affectionate husband." James Patterson, merchant, died 28th October 1843, aged 90; and Elizabeth Wilson, his wife, are also named upon the monument.

No fewer than three watchmakers are traceable in this section—their own mechanism taken down to be re-constructed, wound up anew, and set agoing for all eternity by the Maker's own hand. The name of Adam Chisholm, which appears on a headstone, may still be seen on some old clocks that are still beating time, though his pulse has beat none for a long period—for how many years is not told by the stone which merely indicates his burial place. What says Longfellow in regard to the common lot of all?

> "Art is long, and time is fleeting,
> And our hearts, though stout and brave,
> Still like muffled drums are beating
> Funeral marches to the grave."

A brother tradesman, named Robert Ramsay, died 21st August 1823, aged 38; and Mary Sinclair, his spouse, are commemorated by a humble slab. Near it rises a table in memory of Janet Paul, wife of William Taylor, watchmaker, and several of their children; and though his name does not appear in the inscription, we may fairly assume that his dust mingles in the same spot with theirs. As mentioned in a preceding chapter, a niece of Admiral Paul Jones, Mrs. Williamson, occupies a grave further south; and the Janet Paul here specified was a sister of the renowned adventurer, whose real name was John Paul. Mrs. Taylor died 5th September, 1817, aged 78. Her progeny, as inscribed, were Jean, John, and Elizabeth Paul, all of whom died in childhood.

Intervening with some of these stones we find others devoted to members of the shopkeeping class: on one table appear the names of Robert Walker, died 7th February 1805, aged 70; of his spouse Herries Gray, of their five children, including James, aged 21; and Archibald, died at Virginia, 5th February 1805, aged 30. The following members of a related family are commemorated by an adjoining table-stone: Thomas Bairden, merchant, died 19th January 1837, aged 58, with his wife, Elizabeth Walker; their offspring Elizabeth died 22d May 1841, aged 23; Jane, aged 11, and John, aged 4. On two other affiliated tables we read the names of Thomas Nicholson, merchant, died 15th July 1794, aged 21; of his sister Mary; of her husband, William Aitchison, writer, died 9th August 1814, aged 40; of Janet Aitchison, their daughter, spouse of Thomas Gillespie, joiner, died at Manchester 2d January 1838, aged 37; and of Thomas, their son, died 11th December 1848, aged 51, and who, with his brother William, will be respectfully remembered by many readers as carrying on a cabinet-making business in Dumfries for a long period; also, the name of Margaret, infant daughter of Thomas Aitchison.

James Morton, another of the Burgh tavern-keepers who manufactured their own "barley bree," and lived in what were "good old times" to them, lies near by with Elizabeth Smith, his spouse. He died 2d February 1788, aged "above 70." The stone also commemorates a worthy, pious man, Robert M'Robert, farmer in Gilfoot of Troqueer, died 18th November 1833, aged 67, also his son John, died 14th November 1853, aged 37. A table further west commemorates Walter Murray, innkeeper, died 10th May 1783, aged 45; Isabella, his spouse; their daughters, Isabella, aged 47, Elizabeth, 67, and Joan, the latter wife of James Simpson, hairdresser; the barber himself, who died at the venerable age of 79, on 5th December 1850; William, their son, died at Woolwich, 11th April 1847, aged 39; and Anne, another daughter, aged 65.

Thomas Glendinning, who died 27th August 1846, aged 82; Margaret, his spouse, and several of their progeny are commemorated by an adjoining table-stone. Of her it is stated that she was "In life respected and at death regretted." James, one of their sons, died at Calcutta, 9th May 1826, aged 32; another Thomas, died at Aylesbury, 14th May 1836, aged 33; a third, Andrew, a printer, died 21st July 1842, aged 29, and a fourth, William, died at Annan 24th October 1842, aged 45.

Of two Robert Wilsons, father and son, gardeners, we read on neighbouring stones. The elder died 22d October 1810, aged 66; Ann Watred, his wife, and two youthful grandchildren lying beside him; the younger died 24th May 1790, aged 20.

In a preceding chapter mention was made of the Armstrongs as the leading dyers of the district: an early member of the family, John Armstrong, receives commemoration from an adjoining altar-stone, date of death 3d January 1781, age 43; two of his children being also named in the inscription. Two flat thrughs, which much need help from the mason, commemorate two sons of the mallet and chisel: John Forest died 22nd May 1784, aged 45; and James Tait died 24th February 1784, aged 43, with his wife, Nicholas M'Quhae, their three infants, and Adam, their son, died 11th September, 1824, aged 45.

As already noticed, numerous subjects of King Crispin lie in the extensive section that stretches behind the Church, and several others remain to be added to the list: Walter Locke, shoemaker, died 10th July 1807, aged 71; Grace Ritson, his spouse; and Robert, their son, a member of the same craft, died 29th January 1831, aged 55, lie below a table monument, which also bears the following names: Walter, another son, who died at 14; Walter Kennan, writer, a grandson, died 25th July 1818, aged 20; Mary, their daughter, died 10th February 1833, aged 58; and Isabella, another daughter, died 8th June 1836, aged 61. Headstone memorials rise in memory of James Richardson, died 5th April 1833, aged 35; of William Breck, died 7th August 1819, aged 70; and of James Ferguson, died 7th September 1837, aged 58. The stone which commemorates the last-named Crispinite bears also the names of his spouse, Janet Roddick, of their children, six in number, who died young; of James Roddick, also a shoemaker, and probably the father of Janet, died 26th December 1809, aged 58, and of Jean Rae, his wife; also the names of their seven children, including Euphemia and James, who both died at the age of 51. A youthful cordwainer, John Martin, died 15th September 1801, aged 17, receives the following commendation on the humble stone which marks his grave: "He was a dutiful and affectionate son, an honest and industrious apprentice, and much regretted by all his acquaintances."

Further west a little rise two handsome headstones, one bearing the names of James M'Clure, died 10th November 1872, aged 73, his wife, Jean Anderson, and their son Robert, aged 25; the other erected by another son, John, an industrious master shoemaker, "in memory of Jane James, his beloved wife," died 24th June 1864, aged 42, and two of their infant children.

Fronting the east walk stands a neat headstone dedicated to Thomas Kirkpatrick, boot and shoe maker, died 20th January 1867, aged 73, his children, Robert Kirkwood, aged 23, and two who died in infancy; and along the same line appear three other similar stones, which rise in memory of other relations as follows: Samuel Kirkpatrick, Trohoughtown, died 13th July 1875, aged 83, with Janet Carruthers, his spouse, and Jane, their daughter, aged 56; John Kirkpatrick, Trohoughtown, died 22d July 1844, aged 22; Janet, his youthful niece; Isabella Kirkpatrick, spouse of John M'Gaffie, died 9th February 1854, aged 33; Thomas Kirkpatrick, died at Bush of Craigs, 10th April 1823, aged 67; Jean Eskdale, his spouse, died at Wellgreen; John Ireland, who died there also 18th February 1855, aged 74; Margaret Kirkpatrick, his spouse, with their daughter Isabella, aged 9; John Kirkpatrick, blacksmith, died at Wintruphead, 2d October 1867, aged 70; Jane Carruthers, his wife; and John, their infant son.

After a long useful life as chaplain of several public institutions, the Rev. George Cowans died 15th August 1874, age about 75. We are reminded of his venerable figure, his many amiable characteristics, and his dutiful professional services, by a neat tombstone bearing his name and that of his wife, Anne Watson, who went away before him so long ago as 26th November 1848. As both died full of faith and hope, very appropriate is the apostrophe from Holy Writ put upon the stone. "I shall be satisfied when I awake with Thy likeness." The various offices left vacant by Mr. Cowans are now worthily occupied by the Rev. William N. Dodds.

Commemorated by other headstones in this subdivision lie the following: Thomas Robison, died 21st January 1837, aged 69, and his brother James, billet-master, died 6th November 1837, aged 72; William Thompson, Kirkgate, Dumfries, died 18th February 1800, aged 85, with Elspeth Caird, his spouse; "Mrs. Mary Sturgeon," daughter of Andrew Sturgeon, Prestonmill, Kirkbean, died 18th December 1849, aged 60; also Bryce Mary Laidlaw Moncrieff, wife of D. W. M'Master, died at Greenock 12th March 1857; William Kerr, carter, died 15th July 1836, aged 73, with his two wives, Agnes Nivison and Margaret Dalling, his brother, Robert Kerr, gardener, died 4th October 1811, aged 38, also Janet Jones, died at Liverpool 16th October 1868, aged 67, and Mary Kerr, died 26th April 1876, aged 80, "daughters of the above;" Thomas Tait, died 7th June 1868, aged 70, with Ann Dobie, his spouse, and their children—Mary Ann died in childhood, Alexander at 20, William at 23, and Margaret at 42; Bridget Simpson, wife of Robert Shanks, shoemaker, died 13th November 1845, aged 36; Alexander Wallace, died 20th November 1816, aged 65, with Elizabeth Colvin, his spouse, and an infant granddaughter; George Haining, tailor, died 14th March 1843, aged 40, with Janet Sorbie, his spouse; George Turner, rope manufacturer, Maxwelltown, died 23d January 1858, aged 54, with Elizabeth Mitchell, his spouse; the following children of Andrew Ballantine, shoemaker, Maxwelltown—Mary, wife of John Richardson, mason, died 30th September 1832, aged 31, Williamina died at 26, and two cut off in infancy.

Within a neatly kept compartment rises a handsome headstone in memory of James Clark M'Lachlan, bookbinder, died 10th September 1852, Helen Mundell, his wife, their children—Helen M'Kinnel, Robert, and Helen, cut off in early years, Jane Clark died at 20, Allan Anderson at 23, Allan at 26, and William Mundell at 41, also two youthful grandchildren, William and Helen Mundell, the offspring of James M'Lean. A neat scroll-surmounted headstone commemorates Jane Taylor, wife of William Neilson, painter, died 24th November 1864, aged 34, and two of her infant children. Another similar monument is thus inscribed: "Erected by acquaintances and fellow-workmen in memory of John Tait, for many years warehouseman at Kingholm Mills," died 28th July 1869, aged 32; his wife's name, Mary M'Kenzie, also appearing in the inscription. On a neat upright erection we read of James and Thomas, youthful children of Samuel Tinning. Ann, infant daughter of Robert Paul, writer, is borne in remembrance by a pretty miniature memorial; and a larger one near it is ornate with flourished letters in memory of an aged matron, Jane Vicars, relict of Simon Ewart, merchant, Brampton, died 1st October 1776, aged 82.

A graceful little monument bears within its leaf-fringed tablet the name of John M'Cormick, shoemaker, died 17th October 1861, aged 70 ; also that of Mary Herries, his wife, died 16th November 1866, aged 66. Mr. M'Cormick was a shrewd, sagacious, intelligent man, and more especially noted for his knowledge of local history and antiquities, on which topics it was quite a pleasure to hear him discourse. The following tribute to his memory appeared at the date of his death in the *Dumfries Standard*:—"Mr. M'Cormick was one of our few remaining inhabitants who remembered Robert Burns : once, when quite an infant, he lay cradled in his arms ; and the figure of the poet, as seen afterwards, failing and sad—the shadow of his former self—was daguerreotyped on the mind's eye of the youth, and never afterwards forgotten while life remained. The deceased had a power greater than any one we ever knew of reproducing, with the minutest details and the greatest freshness, incidents of this kind that came within his own experience at the most distant period. It was this that gave a charm to his conversation and a value to his pictures of the past. Many an unwritten record of our Burgh, and chronicle of bygone times, have gone down with him to the dust. It is said that when the poet dies, "mute Nature mourns her worshipper ;' and in accordance with this fine fancy, we can well suppose that the relics of old Dumfries, and the ruins of moated towers and mouldering fanes in the vicinity, have become greyer by his demise—that Devorgilla's hoary Bridge, the venerable Mid-Steeple, the wasted turrets of Carlaverock, the time-worn walls of Lincluden, and the sacred tables of the martyred saints near which his remains were laid in St. Michael's ancient burial-ground on Monday last, will miss the good old man who viewed these, and all mementoes of a former age, with such lively and loving interest, and that they will feel more lonely in decay since he is gone. Mr. M'Cormick will, at all events, be missed and mourned by the wide circle of friends who honoured him for his varied acquirements, who looked up to him as an oracle on all local matters, who admired his consistent Christian character, and respected him for his moral worth."

William, infant son of John M'Cormick; B. M'C. K. Gillies, infant son of his son-in-law, Mr. Robert Gillies, engraver; and John de Bryce Gillies, another son, cut off before he was six years old, are also named in the inscription.

We pause for a while in front of a tall, graceful pointed shaft bearing the honoured name of James Broom, which is also inscribed upon the family tombstone adjoining it on the south. The latter monument commemorates Andrew Black, merchant, died 30th November 1785, aged 40; Bailie Joseph Broom, merchant, died 30th September 1813, aged 58; also the following children of the latter by Jean Johnstone, who had for first husband the said Andrew Black—William and Robert, who died in infancy; Joseph, who died 28th January 1818, aged 17; John, merchant, who died 27th March 1822, aged 33; Jean, died 21st February 1835, age not given; James, Town-Clerk, died 18th January 1842, aged 46. Lastly appears the name of Jean Johnstone, mother of the Town-Clerk, died 26th January 1843, at the advanced age of 84. The chief monument bears only the following words: "Sacred to the memory of James Broom, Town-Clerk of Dumfries, born 21st August 1795, died 18th January 1842."

We well recollect the mournful sensation which the early death of Mr. Broom occasioned throughout the district. He was about the ablest and certainly the most popular man of his day in Dumfries; had done much service as a social and political reformer, and as he had just reached the prime of life, and looked robust as well as young, his friends fondly anticipated that a long course of further usefulness lay before him; and when his career was abruptly cut short, great was the lamentation for the loss of one who was the charm of private circles, not less than the courageous leader of public opinion. When the sad event occurred, the writer of these "Memorials" penned a notice of the deceased gentleman, which was published in the *Dumfries Times*, and from which he may, perhaps, be allowed to quote the following passage :

"Our pen trembles on the page as it records an event which brings to our minds and those of many, all the poignancy of a private loss, and all the pressure of a public calamity ; it is the fate of one who has just passed away from the midst of living men—who has perished in his prime —smote down in the summer of his strength, and in the full maturity of his manhood, and from a sphere of usefulness which, bounded by no narrow limits, was yet overstepped by the worth and wisdom, the warmth of heart, and vigour of intellect so pre-eminently his own. A few days before, and who so blithe, and busy in benevolence as he ? who so active in concerting schemes of general improvement, in planning and perfecting measures of local utility ? who so dutiful as a citizen ? who so forward in the career of general philanthropy ? And now the silver cord is loosed ; the golden bowl is broken at the fountain. The 'bustling spirit' has been quenched in the 'apathy of cold obstruction ;' and in a few days more he will be lowered to his lonely dwelling ; earth will be committed to earth and dust to dust. On his grave will blossom the firstlings of the spring ; and over his ashes they will raise the 'storied urn or monumental bust,' but let no one write an epitaph for James Broom ; his memory needs it not. Let these be kept for common men who require some such token to snatch their names from forgetfulness ; his is embalmed in the hearts of thousands, who have enjoyed his society, who have tasted the sweets of his friendship, who have shared his bounty, who have caught his smile of encouragement, who have profited by his wisdom, and who need neither the fancy of the poet nor the chisel of the sculptor to point out worth which they have witnessed—to fan the fire of gratitude for goodness which they have experienced. . . . . His politics were such as sprung from a sensitive mind which taught him to condemn the encroachments of class privilege on the rights of labour ; and he did not scruple to proclaim in season and out of season, the title of all to participate in the privileges of freemen. The moral courage which in this respect and in similar cases he exhibited formed a conspicuous feature in his character, and the only enemies perhaps which he had are referable to it, and probably because he was one of the pioneers and long the leading advocate of the temperance movement in the district. But this quality, so displayed, if it reared up a few enemies, brought round him a host of admirers. By the bold stand which he made against the drinking usages of the country he effected an amount of good which few individuals are privileged to perform, and he was ready to back out the principles which he advocated by the contents of his purse on all occasions. Whilst assiduous both by precept and example to rescue the victims of intemperance, not a few are indebted to him not only for being drawn from the ensnaring vice, but for assistance and encouragement in beginning life anew. His intellectual powers were of the most versatile description. His reading and literary research took within their range the circle of the *belles lettres*, and treatises in all the departments of practical science; the fruits of which, garnered up in his own mind, were given out to others with facile profusion. As a man of business, his shrewdness of penetration and promptitude of decision were unequalled; and as a speaker, his humour, his earnestness, and artlessness won him golden opinions, and aided in swelling the tide of his popularity."

Mr. Broom died unmarried; and the only member of Bailie Joseph Broom's family now surviving is Mrs. M'Kie of Moat House, widow of Provost M'Kie, and sister of the deceased Town-Clerk.

Table monuments to the following tradesmen and others also appear in this portion of the grounds: Walter Johnston, joiner, died 14th January 1794, aged 33, with Ann Bruce, his spouse; their offspring—Stewart Bruce, died at 8, John at 5, and two infant children; John Glover, mason, died 16th October 1825, aged 48, with Ann Johnston, his spouse; Walter Glover, mason, died 9th February 1843, aged 34; James Walker, mason, died 18th November

1804, aged 76, with Janet Todd, his spouse, James, their son, shoemaker, died 16th March 1797, aged 44, with Mary Craik, his spouse, and five of their infant children; John Tinning, joiner, Nunholm, died 9th January 1807, aged 80, with Mary Graham, his wife, their sons, Christopher died 6th June 1837, aged 72, John, farmer in Cairnfield, died 9th December, 1858, aged 70, with Jean Morine, his spouse, James died at Netherwood 19th February 1861, aged 28; George Kirkpatrick died 20th December 1777, aged 66, with Mary Hill, his spouse, and John, their son, died 19th January, 1837, aged 85; John Brown, merchant, died 28th March 1816, aged 67, with Mary Warick, his wife, their children, Mary died at 3, Ann at 7, and a second Mary at 38; Robert Jefferson died 14th May 1821, aged 51, with Jean Sharp, his spouse, David, their son, a writer, died 12th August 1820, aged 22, and their other children, William, Mary, and Robert, whose ages are not recorded; Andrew Corrie, of Parkfoot, died 25th July 1823, aged 78, with Janet Kirkpatrick, his spouse, their children, John, died at Dalbeattie 14th February 1857, aged 66, Janet died in childhood, and Adam, a grandson, died May 26th 1843, aged 31; Gabriel Wilson, died 25th June 1756, aged 80, with Isabel M'Whan, his spouse, their daughter, Mary, died 22d March 1825, aged 75, his sister, Margaret, died 15th February 1790, aged 60; William Dalrymple, died 14th October 1786, aged 18, and Dorothy, his sister, died 19th May 1823, aged 17.

A few headstone memorials in this division remain still to be noticed; the first of them standing some yards to the west, the others nearer the footpath boundary on the east. Esther Martin, spouse of Sergeant-Major David Wright. Dying 23d March, 1844, aged 54, she is stated to have been "an affectionate wife and an indulgent mother, who lived respected and died regretted." The stone commemorates also her husband, died 17th January 1847, aged 65, also David Denholm, infant son of David Kirkpatrick. Sergeant John Smith of the Royal Artillery finds a sleeping corner in this land of peace, with a little stone sentinel watching over him which, however, could do nothing to ward off the ravages of decay : he died 9th May 1841, at the age of 66 ; Janet Milligan, his spouse, with their progeny, Mary an infant, Janet, aged 19, Nicholas, aged 48, and Ann, aged 64, reposing beside him.

John Barber, baker, who died of cholera 4th October 1832, aged 55, is named on a neat monument, also Hannah Findlater, his spouse. Another stone commemorates Mary Miller, spouse of Robert Crosbie, died 15th June 1850, aged 68 ; also Robert Crosbie, died at Trinchinopoly, East Indies, 14th April 1834, aged 28 ; also Maryann, spouse of Joseph Grierson, mason, died 5th July 1842, aged 29 ; and of James, their son, died at Hanley, Staffordshire, 8th January 1846, aged 28. A worthy operative tailor, John Murdoch, died 21st February 1848, aged 40, is named on a neat headstone, also his three young children, and Agnes, wife of John Shaw, currier. Humbler stones rise in memory of William Watt, sawyer, died 28th May 1794, aged 37 ; of John Grindal, cork cutter, died of cholera 10th October 1832, aged 44, his spouse Dorothy, and their son John died 3d December 1848, aged 28. A united series of little headstones fronting the east walk tells of Charles Anderson, saddler, loosed from life's harness 19th June 1810, aged 60 ; of his wife Elizabeth Coggan, their children—James, another saddler, died 29th September 1832, aged 60, Charles, who followed the same trade, died 3d October 1832, aged 32, Janet died 8th October in the same fatal year, aged 28, all three of cholera ; also of James Anderson's two wives, Elizabeth Anderson, and Janet Martin. Thus within a very small compass of the Cemetery there are laid five victims of the destructive epidemic.

CHAPTER XXV.

BEHIND THE CHURCH—CONCLUDED.

WE have now to point out the earthy beds of the last of the trade magnates that remain to be noticed. James Rule, Deacon of the Tailors, died 28th May 1770, aged 54, lies near the footpath on the east, with his spouse, Margaret Smith, under an altar-stone erected by William Ramsay, their son-in-law, who in course of time also became Deacon of the same craft: Ann Rule, wife of Deacon Ramsay, died 1st May 1808, aged 53, and two of their infant children, are also named in the inscription. Below a similar stone, a few steps westward, rest John Colvin, Deacon of the Squaremen, died 2d April 1829, aged 66; his wife, Mary Burgess; their children, three infants, and Robert, a hosier, aged 23; also his two infant grandchildren, the offspring of William Colvin. He is neighboured by John Swan, Deacon of the same trade, died 30th April 1731, aged 40, who is commemorated in a similar way; also his wife, Margaret Brown, and their son John, a writer, died 12th February 1758, aged 30. Near the Kennedy altar-stone rises a headstone in memory of another member of the family, William Kennedy, Deacon of the Skinners, died 17th April 1790, aged 74. Finally, we reach the altar memento of Deacon Fraser Richardson, to whom the buirdly Fleshers owned allegiance. Struck down by cholera, he died 7th October 1832, aged 70; buried beside him lie his two wives, Jean Walker and Janet Black, with seven of his children, the eldest of whom were Margaret, aged 4, Jean 11, and James 16.

Before, however, bidding adieu to the chiefs of the Blue Blanket, we must borrow from the *Courier* what is said about one of them, Deacon Johnston, who has been a tenant in St. Michael's for well nigh half a century, though we have been unable to find out the precise "room" which he occupies. Our necrology of the trade officials will be rendered less incomplete by the addition to it of the following narrative:—

"Old Deacon Johnston, who lived in the reigns of four kings, who was a lad of 17, when Prince Charles and his Highlanders visited Dumfries, to mulct the inhabitants in a round sum, and were driven away by an excellent *ruse*, which magnified the mists that rose from Lochar Moss, into a moving mass of hostile bayonets, paid the debt of nature on Monday the 7th January 1828; and on Thursday the 11th, his remains were borne and followed to the grave by a numerous assemblage of hammermen and others, who had previously assembled in the Trades' Hall, and walked in procession to the Friars' Vennel, with the view of paying every respect to his memory. If his coffin-lid spoke truth, a whole century had rolled over his head, and he had thus witnessed many marvels, and among others, the sun rise and set, and the moon wax and wane in the heavens—in the one instance, *thirty-six thousand, five hundred, and in the other thirteen hundred and odd times.* His span, in fact, embraced very nearly fourteen years of Sabbaths, and as he was a regular church-goer from a mere boy, until he became very old and somewhat deaf, it seems not improbable that, forenoon and afternoon, he had paid *nine thousand* visits to St. Michael's Church, and listened to twice the number of lectures and sermons. His father who was a saddler, bred his son to the same trade, but he soon changed it for the more laborious occupation of a blacksmith; and never had Vulcan a better representative; never did the anvil ring, the bellows roar, and the forge blaze under the influence of "thews and sinews," that more truly resembled iron itself in the great quality of wearing well. In town and country the heaviest sort of smith-work was assigned to the Deacon, and though the tools he used were of the most primitive description, he was allowed to be a very passable tradesman. Time, which bends the stoutest frames, appeared to make little impression on his; and when we observed the patriarch of 98 walking as erect, if not so nimbly, as the youth of 20, the idea sometimes crossed our minds that he possessed some secret, unknown to the faculty, of *welding* and repairing the numerous cracks and flaws occasioned by the tear and wear of humanity. As father of the Seven Incorporations, the "old Deacon" figured at all the merry-makings held by the Trades, and it was pleasing to witness the polite attentions that were uniformly paid to him by his younger brethren. Though no maker of speeches himself, he lent a greedy ear to the remarks of others, and few men who lived in the reign of George III. ever pledged so many bumpers to his Majesty's health. At the shooting too, for the "Siller Gun," the deceased was always an object of interest, with his cocked hat, snow-white wig, buckled shoes, and garments altogether made after the fashion of the olden times. His local attachments all centred in the town of Dumfries, and more particularly in that fraternity of which he was the eldest and most cherished member; and the man who ventured, in sport or spite, to say a single word against the Trades, had formerly great occasion to keep out of his way, unless he happened to own a head as unsusceptible of *clures* as the studdy on which the Deacon's hammer descended.

The Deacon was at one time a married man, but his children died in infancy, and as his wife also pre-deceased him, he led for a considerable number of years what we may call the lonely life of a widower. For a very long period he was a master blacksmith, and had good employment; but he never saved any money. Though decent, honest, and of an independent spirit, he was easy to a fault on the score of wealth; and it of course took a good deal to keep at bay the only *salamander* known in modern times—the spark generated in the blacksmith's throat. His constitution was so good that he, perhaps, never had a head-ache in his life; yet his health was preserved rather in spite of, than by reason, of temperance; and those who knew him best, affirm, that from the moment he drew his shoes on in the morning, he was always ready to take a gill of whisky!

The older class of Dumfriesians all recollect the Deacon's smithy at the end of the Old Bridge, and close by the side of the roaring caul. From this circumstance, he was as familiar with the Nith as if he had been born and bred a water-kelpy, remembered all the great *spates* and intense droughts that had occurred during a long succession of years, and could tell every time the Town Mills had stopped, whether from an over or an under supply of water, as well as the occasions on which the ice was so strong and thick, that a fair might have been held, and a bullock roasted whole on the space that intervenes between the two bridges. Indeed his memory, stretching as it did into the "dark postern of things long elapsed," was very useful on one occasion. George III. lived so long that while few had witnessed, numbers had forgotten the ceremony of proclaiming a new king. Our own Authorities were rather at a loss how to proceed, and therefore took counsel with the oldest man in the South of Scotland. The Deacon had heard two kings proclaimed before, and as he professed "to ken a' about it," his directions, we believe, were in a great measure followed on the imposing occasion.

In the year 1791 Dumfries was convulsed with a contested election. Annandale was for one candidate, Nithsdale for another, and as this town happened to be the returning burgh, the Deacon, when the day of voting arrived, observed in passing along the High Street, a considerable body of borderers mounted, and drawn up in something like regular order. The people called them "Sharpe's shooters," and the Deacon after surveying the band for a moment, exclaimed, "Ay, ay, lads—what's a' this, what's a' this? ye look very like as ye wanted a mischief; but if ye're no aff in half an hour I'll hing out the *blue blanket!* and set the Seven Trades aboot your lugs." This speech had the desired effect: the offending steeds were stabled forthwith, and perhaps the Deacon's presence of mind contributed to preserve the peace of the town, and avert the calamity of a score or two of broken heads.

Even when a man of 95 or 96, the deceased supported himself by honest industry. When unfit for heavy work, he was still able to make or mend a lock, and many persons were so considerate and humane that they paid him handsomely for what they could have got cheaper done elsewhere. More recently, he depended for subsistence on the "Box Funds," and the donations of those who had known him in the prime and vigour of his days. In October last, "The Caledonian

Hunt" sent him a present of £5, and for the credit of the place it deserves to be stated, that though he uniformly refused to go into the Hospital, he enjoyed to the last all the necessaries, and even many of the comforts of life. A few weeks ago, he was menaced or raised by a chased bull, and in attempting to get out of the way he fell and hurt himself on a heap of stones. This accident confined him to the house, and there can be no doubt that the want of exercise and fresh air hastened his dissolution. Had he been able to walk about as usual, it seems not improbable, from his great haleness, that he would have lived half-a-dozen years longer."

Between the Inglis monument on the north-east and the Smyth memorial on the south (described in a preceding chapter), stand a few stones that remain to be noticed, after overtaking which and one or two others near them we shall terminate our tour of the Old Ground at the Martyrs' Tombstones, a few feet further west.

Two stately table-stones mark the family grave plot of David Mitchell, "residenter" in Dumfries, and of Kirklandmoat; and of a related family. He died 11th October 1780, aged 51; his wife, Jean Richardson; their son John, who died in Montego Bay, Jamaica, 8th September 1794, aged 24; and an infant granddaughter, are also named in one of the inscriptions. The other commemorates William Samson, mason, brother of the builder who was partner in the firm of Samson and M'Kaig, and whose monument we have already noticed—date of death, 11th June 1794, age 56; also his wife, Jean Kerr; David, their son, who occupied the farm of High Kelton, where he died, aged 65, date not mentioned; his wife, Elizabeth Mitchell; John M. Samson, eldest son of David, died in the East India Company's service at Calcutta, aged 22; and his other sons David, who died when 24, and James, when 23. For many years these stones were in a dilapidated condition, but an inscription states they were "re-erected and renewed" by Jane Samson, the "affectionate daughter" of David Samson, who thus set a good example, which, if extensively followed, would give a new aspect to many time-worn memorials that are met with in St. Michael's.

The name Kennedy, in connection with the nursery trade, has long been well known in Dumfries. Several members of the family are commemorated by the next altar-stone which comes under our notice : James Kennedy, died 17th November 1824, aged 61 ; Mary Ronald, his spouse ; John, their son, lost at sea when on his passage home from Quebec, 19th December 1806, aged 20 ; Jane Knowles, his daughter-in-law, spouse of James Kennedy, junior, nursery and seedsman, died 22d February 1855, aged 63. One of the tiniest of tombstones rises near by, treasuring the memory of George W. Kennedy, 3 years old.

Another table is dedicated to the memory of William Dick, died 10th September 1851, aged 72 ; Charlotte Aitken, his spouse ; also, Elizabeth Aitken, "the beloved wife" of J. B. Crosbie, died 26th September 1865, aged 52. Ralph Hilliard Ball, jeweller, died 7th February 1842, aged 27 ; and his sister, Mary, died 8th March 1847 (age not recorded), are also named upon the monument.

Mrs. Dick, who died 24th December, 1853, aged 66, carried on an extensive business as a confectioner and pastry cook, and her establishment in English Street was for many years a famous school in which young ladies were taught the culinary art. Not a few of her pupils who are now matrons remember her gratefully on account of her valuable professional instructions and kindly disposition. While as regards old national dishes Mrs. Dick was not inferior to the renowned Mrs. Margaret Dods of St. Ronan's, her *cuisine* embraced such modern dainties as M. Soyer might have been proud of ; the precepts given in the old play receiving from her all due consideration.

> "Cook, see all your sauces
> Be sharp and pregnant to the palate,
> That they may commend you.
> Look to your roast and boiled meats handsomely ;
> And what new kickshaws and delicate made things
> You deal with."

In the list of contributors to the Jacobite levy of £1000, appears the name of John Johnston, merchant, who is down for two shillings sterling. It is his table tombstone, we presume, that rises next to the above, as it bears the same name and designation, age 76, and date of death 25th October, 1783. Mention is also made in the inscription of Janet Johnston, his spouse ; of John Lyel, merchant, died 5th April 1796, aged 80 ; of Jane, niece of John Johnston, and wife of William Wightman, died 18th April, 1810, aged 72 ; and of John Wightman, mariner, died 27th February, 1851, aged 74.

Within an adjoining enclosure appears a table-stone in memory of Joseph Bruce, blacksmith, died 21st December 1825, aged 79 ; of Agnes Ker, his wife ; of their progeny—Mary died 18th October 1843, aged 67 ; Isabella, died 6th February 1848, aged 71 ; and of two other children who died young. Several members of a related family are commemorated on another table-stone in the same plot : James Sinclair, bookseller (brother of Bailie John Sinclair), died 8th May 1825, aged 46 ; Catherine Bruce, his wife, died 31st December 1841, aged 61 ; their sons—Thomas, died 9th January 1832, aged 20 ; John, assistant-surgeon to H.M.S. Excellent, died at Titchfield, 26th October 1840, aged 27 ; and James, died at Calcutta, 12th July 1854, aged 29. A little headstone in the same compartment bears the names of Thomas and Agnes, two other children of James Sinclair, both of whom died young.

John Sinclair's death was the result of an accident. Thrown out of a gig on the above day, whilst proceeding from Portsmouth to Southampton, he survived only a few hours. Being extremely amiable and accomplished, his sad fate caused much sorrow throughout his native district. While receiving commemoration from the family tombstone, a unique and splendid memorial of him appears on the opposite bank of the Nith in the Observatory at Corbelly, which contains among its treasures Currie's celebrated group of Old Mortality, busy with chisel and mallet repairing a Cameronian tombstone, while the venerable Pony which bore him on his journeys grazes by his side. Within the enclosure which protects the figure, there is placed the following inscription :

"In memory of John Sinclair, M.D., assistant-surgeon, R.N., born at Dumfries, 6th April 1814, died at Titchfield, Hampshire, 26th

October, 1840. The sculptures here deposited were conceived and executed by our native artist, Mr. John Currie, disposed of by lottery, 25th October, 1840, and the prize drawn in name of Dr. John Sinclair, a youth beloved by all, of high promise, and superior talents. By a mournful accident, he died the following day, and the figures of Old Mortality and his Pony were presented to the Dumfries and Maxwelltown Observatory, in fulfilment of his intentions. They are here finally placed as a memorial to departed worth, a present to the public, and a token of attachment to the place of his birth."

In this singular way the artistic masterpiece, which commemorates old Robert Paterson's labour of love among the tombs, has itself become an enduring monument to a gentleman who well merited such an honour.

Of Mr. James Sinclair's family there are two survivors, Mrs. Porteous, and Mr. Joseph Sinclair, the latter long a most useful citizen of Dumfries, but for some years past obliged by delicate health to reside at a distance from his native town in a milder climate.

Arriving next at a very graceful old structure, we read upon its marble tablet of a wedded pair, who seem to have realized Middleton's fine ideal of the matrimonial state :

> "What a delicious breath marriage sends forth!
> The violet's bed's not sweeter. Honest wedlock
> Is like a banqueting house built in a garden,
> On which the Spring's chaste flowers take delight
> To cast their modest odours."

The epitaph is in the following terms :

"To the memory of John Aikin, writer in Dumfries, of his truly valued and beloved wife Jane M'Dowall, and of their infant daughter Jane M'Dowall Aikin. This marriage formed a congeniality of sentiment and soul, from a long and steady attachment, from friendship and from love, was dissolved on the 21st February 1794, by the death of a fond and tender mother, aged 34 years, and indissolubly reunited on the 16th July, 1806, by the death of a revered father aged 52 years. Her virtues and accomplishments, his talents and liberality seldom equalled, were in them united an object of respect and esteem to all."

These words recall to us Crashaw's beautiful little poem "Upon husband and wife who died and were buried together."

> "To those whom Death again did wed,
> This grave's the second marriage-bed.
> For though the hand of Fate could force,
> 'Twixt soul and body a divorce,
> It could not sever man and wife,
> Because they both lived but one life ;
> Peace good reader, do not weep,
> Peace, the lovers are asleep !

They (sweet turtles) folded lie
In the last knot that love could tie.
Let them sleep, let them sleep on,
Till this stormy night be gone
And th' eternal morrow dawn ;
Then the curtains will be drawn,
And they wake into a light
Where day shall never die in night."

Mr. James Aikin, the well-known and estimable Liverpool shipowner and merchant, is one of the fruits of the union that is so poetically depicted in the epitaph. The noble copy in marble of the Medicean Venus which enriches the Dumfries Observatory was a gift from Mr. Aikin to that institution; and in not a few other ways besides he has manifested a hearty interest in his native town.

More of his forebears are named on an old table stone near by. The words "Here lyes Rodger Aitkin, who died Feb. 13 1734, aged 46 years," appear upon it in very antique lettering. Less ancient characters are employed to intimate that this is "The burial place of Roger Aikin, merchant, Dumfries, who died 9th March, 1787, aged 70. He brought up a large family, and left the world with credit." Jean M'Kie, his spouse, died 13th June 1795, aged 71, and Jean, daughter of Roger Aitkin, senior, died 18th April, 1819, aged 70, are also named in the inscription.

THE MARTYRS' STONES.

As a rule strangers who come to visit St. Michael's seek the shrine of Burns first, and then, after rendering fitting homage to the memory of the national bard, they pass on to muse in sympathetic mood over the Martyrs' Tombstones, three in number, which rise a few yards westward of the Mausoleum. These stones mark the thrice-hallowed ground where lie the relics of three men, of humble worldly condition, who contended heroically for great principles, suffering even to death in their defence, and who merit grateful remembrance from the succeeding generations that owe to them and others of similar stamp the blood-bought heritage of religious freedom. Beside these sacred memorial stones stands an imposing granite pyramid, erected about forty years ago to shew in some degree the reverence which is cherished in modern days for the Nithsdale martyrs. The feeling which prompted the erection of this new monument merits high praise; but up till a recent date its time-defying front contrasted strangely with the wasted aspect of the two old and incomparably more precious stones which it overshadowed. With a view to their renovation, the following public appeal was made, dated 1st October 1872: "The tombstones in St. Michael's Churchyard, erected in memory of William Grierson and William Welsh, two martyred Covenanters, are lying in a neglected condition, flat upon the ground, and so sadly weather-worn that their inscriptions are partly obliterated. Prompt repairs and protective arrangements are required to save them from utter wreck. The proposed mode of treatment is to lift the venerable mementoes, place new tables on the sites they occupy, then carefully fasten down the old stones upon the new tables, repair fractures, and touch up the inscriptions." It was further intimated that small subscriptions towards the renovation fund (large individual ones not being looked for, nor needed) would be thankfully received and duly acknowledged by one of the local editors. To this appeal a ready response was made, and early next year the stones were carefully "re-edified" in the way already explained; while the wants of the third stone, which was in a comparatively good condition, were also attended to. The entire process of renovation was designed and executed by Mr. Thomas Watson. Better workmanship of the kind there could not be: they now look as if they were fit to endure for centuries; and the strength which they possess has not been given to them at the serious sacrifice of their antique characteristics, all of which that it was possible to preserve having been religiously retained.

It was in the autumn of 1666, when the infamous Court of High Commission, as directed by Lauderdale and Sharpe, goaded our Presbyterian forefathers into an armed revolt, that the events occurred which gave martyrs' dust, with its dolour and glory, to St. Michael's Churchyard. Starting from the village of Dalry, the insurgent force, resolute but small, marched upon Dumfries, seized Sir James Turner, the unscrupulous tool of the Government, at his head-quarters there; then pushed forward, first to the West country and next in the direction of Edinburgh, gathering strength as they passed along; Lieutenant-Colonel Wallace, an experienced officer, Maxwell, the young laird of Monreith, John Welsh, the outed minister of Irongray, two other preachers, William Veitch, afterwards minister of Dumfries, and Hugh M'Kail of Ochiltree, being among the persons of note who joined the movement. Even with all its accessions it was the reverse of formidable. What could a thousand men, not over well equipped, do against the tens of thousands by whom the despotism of the Government was upheld? Disappointed in their cherished hope that the Covenanters of the capital would secure for them an entrance into it and greatly recruit their ranks, the wandering host, heart-sore and weary, yet not quite forlorn, hied away to the Pentland Hills, there, on the tableland of Rullion Green, to wait the attack of General Dalziel, who, they knew, had gone forth against them at the head of a powerful army. Outnumbered by more than three to one, the insurgents, after shewing marvellous gallantry, gave way at last, fifty of them falling on the field, and about one hundred and thirty of them surrendering as prisoners on receiving a promise that their lives would be spared. The Covenanters spared the persecutor Turner when his life was in their hands; and they would, at any stage before their final defeat, have thrown away their arms if liberty to worship God according to their consciences had been conceded to them. Nevertheless, no mercy was meted out to the captured remnant, or those stragglers from it whom the ruffian troopers of the State afterwards hunted down. The scaffold, as set up in the Grassmarket of Edinburgh, claimed numerous victims; twenty-five others were hanged or shot in the rural districts, "a large proportion of them being natives of Nithsdale or Galloway, as many rude memorials scattered over our moorlands, hillsides, and churchyards still attest."

At this period the Dumfries authorities were, with scarcely an exception, partisans of the Government. The occupation of their Burgh by the insurgents excited their indignation; and when the invading party took welcome leave, the magistrates sent Bailie Stephen Irving to the Privy Council in Edinburgh with tidings of what had occurred, and the expression of a hope that the Covenanting rebels would be promptly dealt with. Just about a month after their overthrow, the Town Council met to exchange congratulations on the subject, and to dispose of two poor fugitives from Rullion Green, who, on returning to their native district, had been tracked, captured, and adjudged to death at Ayr, under instructions from the Government. As the prisoners had been apprehended within the jurisdiction of the Dumfries magistrates, the duty was assigned to them of carrying the capital punishment into effect; and doubtless these gentlemen approved mightily of the arrangements, according to which the condemned traitors were to be ignominiously strangled, in the very town which had witnessed the recent triumph of their party.

The meeting took place "within the Tolbooth of Dumfries, on Monday the last day of December, 1666 yeares," the said Tolbooth being situated on the east side of High Street, nearly opposite the Mid-Steeple. Thomas Irving, "Proveist," presided, supported by Bailie William M'Kittrick and Bailie Martin Newall. There were also present "James Hutchison, Dean, Thomas M'Kinnell, Conveinar, Jon Ewart, Thomas Bell, John Coupland, Edward Irving, Richard Maxwell, John Irving, younger, Merchants; and William M'Kinnell, Thomas Newlands, Homer Andersone, James Wright, and Nicol Rae, Deacons." A message from the military tribunal that had tried the men was read, enjoining the magistrates "to sie their sentence for hanging the personnes and affixing of the heides and right armes of Jon Grier in Fourmerkland and William Welsch in Carsfairne upon the eminenest pairts of this Burgh." After which, Provost Irving having taken the Council's advice regarding the latter part of the mandate, they "condescendit that the

Bridge-port is the fittest place quere upon that the heids and armes should be affixed; and therfoir appoynted them to be affixed on that place."* On the second day after these deliberations the two men, whose fate was sealed, were taken from the felons' cell in the Tolbooth to the common place of execution at Crystal Mount, and there suffered the pains of martyrdom. Their identity with the martyrs of St. Michael's does not admit of question, as though one of the Christian names is given as John instead of William that must be set down as a clerical error; and the family name Grier was then used as an equivalent for Grierson. After the heads and arms had been exposed for some weeks on Devorgilla's Bridge rumours of a design to remove them reached the Council, and lest a plot should be carried into effect by the "disloyal personnes" who had planned it, the several relicts were by the gracious permission of Lauderdale removed for safety to the top of the Tolbooth; and whether they were ever consigned to the same resting-place as the mutilated bodies to which they belonged we know not.

James Kirk or Kirka, of Sundaywell, Dunscore, the other martyr, who lies buried about ten yards north of his fellow-sufferers, was one of the last victims of the persecution in Nithsdale. Eighteen long years rolled by red with the slaughter of sainted men from the time when Grierson and Welsh were put to death till Kirk was called upon to share their fate and neighbour them in a bloody grave: dismal years, indeed, they were, as ever any poor doomed country endured:—

"The years, the years, when Scotland groaned
Beneath her tyrant's hand;
And it was not for the heather she was called
'The purple land.'"

No other charge, so far as we are aware, was ever brought against James Kirk, save that he was an uncompromising Covenanter, who, by attending field preachings, had exposed himself to the penalty of death. Betrayed by one James Wright into the hands of Captain Bruce while lurking in the parish of Keir, he was carried by that infamous officer to Dumfries, detained one night, and next morning was brought forth and shot dead on the Whitesands.

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* Town Council minutes.

Soon after the Revolution Settlement, which came only a few years too late to save the Sundaywell Covenanter, the feeling entertained in the district for the three martyrs was manifested by the erection over their remains of the stones we now see, and it found expression in the unsophisticated prose and rugged verse with which the memorials are inscribed, and to the verdict given on which posterity has set its seal.

On one of the stones we read as follows:

"Here lyes William Welsh, Pentland martyr, for his adhereing to the Word of God, and appearing for Christ's Kingly Goverment in his House, and the Covenanted work of Reformation, against Perjury and Prelacie. Execute, Janr. 2: 1667. Rev. 12, 11.

Stay passenger, read; here interred doth ly
A witness 'gainst poor Scotland's perjury,
Whose head once fixd upon the bridge-port stood,
Proclaiming vengeance for his guiltless blood."

The next stone commemorates William Grierson, in the same form of words, also executed 2d January 1667, the versified epitaph running thus:

"Under this stone lo, here doth ly
Dust sacrificed to tyranny;
Yet precious in Immenull's sight
Since martyr'd for His Kingly right.
When He condemns these hellish druges,
By suffrage saints shall judge their judges."

An inscription along the border states that "This and the neighbouring tombstone were re-erected and repaired by voluntary subscription in March 1873."

The third stone is inscribed as follows:

"Here lyes James Kirka, martyr, shot dead, upon the Sands of Drumfreis, for his adhereing to the Word of God, and appearing for Christ's Kingly Goverment, in his House, and the Covenanted work of Reformation, against Tirranie, Perjurie, and Prelacie. 1685. —Rev. 12, 11.

By bloody Bruce* and wretched Wright,
I lost my life in great despight--

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*"Mrs. Rome, who kept the town's tavern (Dumfries) in 1687 charged the subjoined account against the Council that year:—'Spent with Lieutenant-Colonell Windram, Captaine Strauchane, Captain Bruce,

Shot dead without due time to try,
And fitt me for eternity ;
A wittness of Prelatick rage,
As ever was in anie age."

Among all the memorials with which St. Michael's is crowded there is none that wears a more durable aspect than the modern Monument to the Martyrs. It seems to say, like Tennyson's river, "Men may come and men may go, but I live on for ever :" apparently defying change and decay—meet emblem of the cause for which the sufferers contended. Yet this massive pyramid, too, will crumble, perishing at the crack of doom, if not before, while their principles, when freed from what is of the earth earthy, will outlive "the wreck of matter and the crash of worlds." The north side of the basement bears the following words :

"The Martyrs' Monument. Erected by the voluntary contributions of persons who revere the memory and admire the principles of the sufferers for conscience' sake during the Persecution in Scotland ; aided by a collection made at a sermon preached on the spot by the Rev. Wm. Symington of Stranraer. MDCCCXXXIV."

On the west there is the subjoined inscription, which conveys but a very inadequate idea of the cause for which the Martyrs suffered :

"Near this spot were deposited the remains of William Grierson and William Welsh, who suffered unto death for their adherence to the principles of the Reformation, Jan. 2nd, 1667. Also, of James Kirk, shot on the Sands of Dumfries, 1685. Rev. xii. 11."

Many years ago the author, after "a meditation" on this pyramid of granite, penned an Address to Time, praying him to spare the Martyrs' Cairn, whatever else he might choose to destroy in the Cemetery around. With this Address, slightly abridged, we conclude the chapter.

Leivetenant Lauder, Leivetenant Livingstone, six pynts of wine with tobacco and pypes, £6 9s 4d (Scots).' Here is a pretty batch of blood-stained Bacchanalians—convened, perhaps, to arrange over their cups for some fresh raid against the children of the Covenant. Of many cruel deeds Livingstone and Lauder were guilty ; and the above tavern score contrasts curiously with the rude elegy in St. Michael's Churchyard over the remains of James Kirk, who was shot on the Dumfries Sands in June 1685, at the bidding of one of the convivialists."—*History of Dumfries*, second edition, p. 422. The remaining two of the same party, Windram and Strauchan, were concerned two years before in the drowning of the two female martyrs in Blednoch Bay.

Though well the chisel and the lyre
To consecrate the dead conspire,
And hearts beloved are hushed below,
Who merit all which these bestow;
Yet if thy path must needs be traced
By mouldering shrines and tombs defaced;
If these, which Art has called her own,
But form a footstool for thy throne,
To tremble 'neath thy tireless head,
Then mingle with the insulted dead;
If thou can'st not thy foot refrain,
Take these proud piles which crowd the plain;
But as thou would'st a blessing earn,
Spare, spare the Martyrs' hallowed Cairn.

Memorial of that doughty band
Whose blood so often dyed the land,
Of those who trod a toilsome path,
Thorn-planted by the tyrant's wrath—
Who nobly braved contempt and shame,
Contending for Messiah's claim,
And, leagued in brotherhood and love,
For His Crown-Rights and Covenant strove.

Witness, ye hills that point to heaven,
How true the testimony given!
Witness, ye streams which calmly glide,
How fearfully their faith was tried!
Witness, thou Vale of Nith so fair,
Their hours of weariness and care,
Their days of dread and nights of pain,
When shelter there they sought in vain!
Thy dusky caves their shadows lent,
Thy craggy glens their foliage bent,
To hide within their dim embrace
The remnant of that stricken race.
But cruel men have eagle eyes:
They pierced the folds and found the prize.

They found them with long watching tired,
But yet with deep devotion fired—
With haggard look and raiment torn—
With visage marred and famine-worn,
How wasted now, each stalwart frame!
But still their high resolve the same—
To worship, though a host said nay,
As conscience pointed out the way:
Their heart-strings held this birth-right fast—
It was life's dearest boon and last;
In its blest exercise they fell,
Sore smitten in the mountain dell.
'Mid taunt and scorn they died—they died
By desert stream and lone hillside.

And this grey Pyramid was piled
To keep their memory undefiled,

That men unborn might understand
The claim of Scotland's martyred band.
Then spare its stones, thou spoiler Time:
To touch them were presumptuous crime.

The stern old man with scythe and glass
Just pointed to the drooping grass,
Which winced and withered 'neath his frown:
"So shall its stones be shaken down.
I travel on: beneath my tread
Earth's monumental piles are laid;
Though fools would to their tablets trust
The records of the proud or just,
And bright or brave achievement done,
I triumph o'er them every one.
So must this soaring structure fail,
And buried be its woeful tale,
Swept from the register of years
Its narrative of blood and tears.
In vain to harm it not you call:
What reck I, if oblivion's pall
Above these boasted Martyrs fall?"

Then do thy worst. Though large thy boast,
Their hallowed names shall ne'er be lost;
Their deeds, their wrestlings, their renown,
Shall pass to latest ages down:
These cannot fall beneath thy sway,
Like this poor chronicle of clay.

Long as heroic worth remains
To thrill the pulse in human veins;
Long as thyself their fame shall last—
Yea longer; for when time is past,
The Martyrs' memory shall not die:
'Tis star-traced in yon cloudless sky.

CHAPTER XXVI.

ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH.

OUR frontispiece shews the appearance of this Church with its imposing steeple, and its position among the tombs. The ecclesiastical edifice has stood there since the date of the last Rebellion, it having been completed for opening before the close of the following year 1746. A portion of the ground round about has been used as a burial place for more than eight hundred years; and the probability is, that the present Church has had at least three predecessors, the first of them rising up rude and small with roof of thatch during the Scoto-Irish period, to be succeeded by more imposing structures in accordance with the taste of the times and the requirements of the parish. On entering the Church by the main or western door through the porch, which is florid with memorial busts and tablets, a spacious and graceful interior greets the eye. In 1869 the entire area was refurnished according to a plan by which the old square pews that had accommodated several generations of worshippers were superseded by seats of modern shape. A great improvement was thus effected; but unfortunately during the process a precious memorial was cleared away like the ordinary timber among which it stood: this was Burns's Pew in the south-west, which was occupied by the poet and his family, and bore on its table the initials R. B. The vandalism of this act is much to be regretted, especially as by the exercise of a little ingenuity the pew could have been harmonised to a great extent with the other wood-work, and any appearance of anomaly that remained would have been far more than compensated for by the preservation of such an interesting memento of Burns and Jean Armour. Favoured with admission into the Session-house, we find upon its walls a memorial list of the various ministers who have been settled in St. Michael's parish since the date of the Reformation, which list we amplify and otherwise slightly alter, premising that seven of the names upon it appear on the monumental stones of the Church or Cemetery outside.

1567. Ninian Dalyell, with a stipend of £40; removed to Carlaverock.

1574. Peter Watson, translated from Markinch; and to Flisk.

1585. Alexander Forsyth, translated to Craigie 1586.

1586. Hew Fullarton, M.A., translated to Kilmarnock 1601.

1601. David Barclay, translated from Maybole; and to Kilwinning 1605.

1605. Thomas Ramsay, M.A., died in 1638.

1638. James Hamilton, removed to Edinburgh 1647.

1648. Hew Henrison or Henderson, M.A., translated from Dalry in the Glenkens; "outed" during the Persecution.

1658. George Campbell, M.A., also suffered much for his adherence to Presbyterianism: he was deprived of his incumbency in 1662, was afterwards imprisoned in Edinburgh, and when the troubles ceased returned to Dumfries.

1662. James Chalmers, A.M., curate during the temporary ascendancy of Episcopalianism; translated to Paisley 1667.

1668. Alexander Cairncroce, A.M., another Prelatical curate, afterwards made Bishop of Brechin 1684.

1685. Richard Brown, A.M., third and last of the curates, fled from Dumfries at the Revolution, and died in Edinburgh 1707.

1689. George Campbell, M.A., reappointed; made Professor of Divinity in Edinburgh University 1690.

1694. William Veitch or Vetch, M.A., translated from Peebles, died in 1722.

1696. Robert Patoun, M.A., first minister of the second charge; presented to the first charge in 1715.

1715. Patrick Linn, M.A.; died in 1731.

1731. Robert Wight, M.A.; died in 1764.

1765. Thomas Mutter, D.D., translated from Auchtermuchty; died in 1793.

1794. William Burnside, D.D., translated from the New Church; died in 1805.

1806. Alexander Scot, D.D., translated from the New Church, died in 1830.

1830. Robert Wallace, D.D., translated from Kirkpatrick-Durham; died in 1864.

1865. John Duncan, translated from Abbottshall; and to Scoonie in 1867.

1867. James Fraser, D.D., translated from St. John's, Glasgow, and died after an incumbency of six months.

1868. Alexander Bryson, M.A., translated from the Middle Parish, Paisley; and to Alloa in 1870.

1871. James Barclay, M.A.; translated to Canonbie in 1874.

1874. John Paton, the present minister, ordained in 1859 as chaplain to H.M. Highland Regiments in India; and appointed one of H.M. Presbyterian chaplains in the Bombay Presidency, 1863.

Little change has been experienced by the gallery of the Church. There we see, as of old, the Magistrates' pew facing the pulpit; and the pew-divided "lofts" covering two-thirds of the space which the Seven Trades were allowed to erect for themselves on condition of paying £80 and keeping them in repair: these remain, but they have fallen into the possession of others, and the system with which they were identified has passed away, together with nearly all who once claimed a right to occupy the seats in virtue of being freemen. Between two windows on the south wall above the Squaremen's loft appears a singular masonic memento dated 1722, in the form of two framed wooden panels, inscribed, and surmounted by a corresponding device which displays the compass, square, mallet, chisel, and other tools of the craft. The inscription, which is exceedingly quaint, runs as follows:

"The ark the Church
From final ruin sav'd
When God on Sinners' head
The Deludge lav'd
And tho by vertue
Of this Art of ours
Proud Babel lifted up
Her lofty towrs
Again it Solomon's
Glorious Temple built
Where God the vast Creation's
Framer dwelt
Jesus our Chief
The fabric since renewed
When on the cursed Tree
His blessed Head He bowed
His blood the shattered
Works of God together glew'd."

Placed on the wall behind the Magistrates' seats a venerable clock bearing date 1758 measures time as it rolls along, its "Tic, tic, tic," sounding in fancy's ear like the language of the old timepiece which Longfellow celebrates "For ever—never! Never—for ever!"

"Through days of sorrow and of mirth,
Through days of death and days of birth,
Through every swift vicissitude
Of changeful time, unchanged it has stood,
And as if like God it all things saw
It calmly repeats these words with awe,
For ever—never!
Never—for ever!

Never here, for ever there,
Where all parting, pain, and care,
And death and time shall disappear—
For ever there, but never here,
The horologe of Eternity
Sayeth thus, as time rolls by,
For ever—never!
Never—for ever!"

Some old familiar names, already noticed on the gravestones of the Cemetery or of frequent occurrence in the other records of the Burgh, appear on two black boards that support the clock on either side. Down till 1845 the poor of Dumfries, like those of Scotland generally, were chiefly maintained by the weekly church-door collections, and bequests and donations, largely supplemented by private charity. To Dr. Robert Johnston, brother-in-law of George Heriot, and physician to James VI., John Corrie, John Raining, an opulent merchant of Norwich, and the Brothers Moorhead who founded the Hospital, the poor of the parish were chiefly indebted in the pre-assessment period ; some others, however, contributing considerable sums towards their maintenance. The black boards under notice are illuminated in a double sense by the names of those good men and women in past times of whom it could be said "He (or she) that giveth to the poor lendeth to the Lord." As the list is of historical value locally, and an interesting memorial of St. Michael's, we give it entire, the sums specified being in merks except where otherwise expressed.

1640. Robert Johnston, Doctor of Law—10,800.
1685. Thos. M'Kitterick, merchant—600.
1692. John Richardson, advocate—1500.
1694. Mrs. Marion Maxwell, of Stewarton--100.
1695. James Kennan, late Bailie—180.
1696. William Craik Esq., of Arbigland, late Provost—500.
1696. Thos. M'Kinnel, workman—400.
1697. Francis Dickson, writer—150.
1697. Homer Anderson, late Convener—310.
1698. Gilbt. Nicholson, Writer to the Signet—90.
1698. Robt. Blailock, merchant—180.
1698. Mrs. Grisel Grierson, of Glencors—90.
1700. James Shortrige, merchant—500.
1700. John Rule, chirurgeon—500.
1701. James M'Kitterick, merchant– 180.
1705. The Rev. Wm. Veitch, Minister of this Parish, two Communion Cups—value 150.
1707. Thos. Johnston, merchant—540.
1707. Mrs. Elizabeth Johnston, relict of John Irving of New Orchard—100.
1710. Margt. Maxwell, daughter of the deceased Capt. E. Maxwell —600.
1710. George Walls, merchant—1000.
1713. The Rev. Robert Edgar, late minister of Maxton—2000.
1713. John Irving, of Drumcoltran—500.
1713. John Martin, late Bailie—200.

1716. Robt. M'Burnie, writer—500.
1717. Alexr. Beck, merchant—100.
1720. John Maxwell, late Deacon of the Squaremen—200.
1721. The Rev. Wm. Veitch, Minister of this Parish—100.
1723. John Raining, merchant, Norwich—9000.
1723. John Loch, taylor—200.
1725. John Blunt, weaver, ten roods of land in Over Barkerland.
1727. Robt. Boyd, writer—1000.
1728. Thomas Hunter, chirurgeon—£400.
1728. Thos. Edgar, Esq., of Reidbank, late Provost—£60.
1733. Mrs. Marion Archibald, relict of Dr. Archibald—£60.
1737. Robert Maxwell, of Shelloch—200.
1737. Andw. Robison, merchant—180.
1739. Wm. & Jas. Moorheads, merchants, for a Poor's House—9900.
1742. William Copland, Esq., of Colliston—300.
1742. John Lowthian, of Staffold—360.
1750. John Forsyth, merchant—200.
1800. Dr. Milligan Johnston—£10.
1804. Jas. Wait, Esq., of Moat—£50.
1806. Miss Mary Goldie—£10.
1806. The Rev. Wm. Burnside, D.D.—£10.
1814. The Rev. Alexr. Scot, D.D., a donation of one hundred guineas, one half to the Hospital, and the other half to the poor of the parish, at the discretion of the Kirk-Session—£105.
1814. Robert Gillespie, Esq., of Peelston—£20.

The vestibule through which we passed on entering the Church had been closed for many years, and was reopened on 28th January 1827, at the instance of Mr. William Grierson. On returning we pause a few minutes to survey its various memorials, the oldest of which is a tablet elegantly adorned with urn and flowing drapery, bearing the name of a distinguished "merchant prince," illustrious in the municipal annals of "The Great Metropolis," and for many years the presiding genius of the East India Company. The epitaph is subjoined :

"In memory of Sir Thomas Reid, Bart., F.R.S., of Graystone Park, Dumfriesshire, and Ewell Grove, in the county of Surrey, South Britain, the eldest son of James Reid, and Helen, his wife, who lie interred in the adjoining churchyard. He was many years an eminent merchant in London, and departed this life the 29th day of February, 1824, aged 61 years. Whilst his domestic virtues endeared him to his family and friends, the rare union of active zeal, sound judgment, and universal benevolence fitted him peculiarly for public duties. As a husband, father, brother, friend, he was affectionate and exemplary ; pious and humane, easy of access, and to the poor and helpless a patron and protector. For his integrity and abilities he was called upon to fill many important stations ; and unsolicited, he was twice elected chairman of the Honourable East India Company. His afflicted widow erected this monument to the memory of a beloved husband."

Both the Rev. Dr. Scot and the Rev. Dr. Wallace, of St. Michael's, are here commemorated in addition to the monumental stones which rise above their remains in the Burial-ground. The Scot memento is a fine bust from the chisel of Mr David Dunbar, and is a most faithful likeness of the worthy clergyman. An inscription below gives the name, date of death, &c., with the words :

> "This memorial is erected by public subscription in testimony of the high estimation in which he was held as a teacher of the divine truths of Christianity. The righteous shall be in everlasting remembrance."

Adjoining this bust we see the figure of a sleeping child charmingly cut in marble by the same artist. It is in memory of Elizabeth Stokes Dunbar, the plinth bearing the following beautiful tribute to the departed infant:

> " Like dewdrop kissed off by the sun's morning beam,
> A brief, but a beauteous existence was given ;
> Her soul seemed to come down to earth in a dream,
> And only to wake when ascended to heaven."

The Wallace memorial is a fine artistic tablet, "Erected by the Family."

A good man and able judge, whose grave we have yet to visit, is borne in remembrance by a tasteful tablet with the subjoined inscription :

> "In memory of John Pitcairn Trotter, Esq., advocate, for 28 years Sheriff-Substitute of Dumfriesshire, who died 5th July, 1867, aged 63 years. Erected by the Faculty of Procurators to commemorate his eminent ability, his vigorous and conscientious discharge of the duties of his office, and his cordial interest in their welfare."

As noticed in chapter twenty-third, many members of the Corrie family are buried in the Cemetery ; and one of the tablets in the porch is erected to another member, the benevolent gentleman to whom the poor of the Burgh are indebted for "The Corrie Fund," from which about £70 is realised every year ; and which is distributed annually by the Hospital Directors, as Trustees, in sums varying from 10s to 20s. The monument is thus incribed :

> "In memory of Mr. John Corrie, son of Mr. Joseph Corrie, writer in Dumfries. Born May 30th, 1736, died January 3d, 1791. Nearly the whole of his property was bequeathed to the poor of Dumfries. He was a person of the strictest integrity, and the poor who profited by his bounty bless his memory."

As a medical practitioner, no one was more popular in Dumfries than he, whose amiable character, general professional attainments, and great services during a season of special calamity, are faithfully depicted on another graceful tablet, which reminds us also that he perished at the post of duty when the Burgh was attacked by cholera in 1848. The memorial record runs as follows :

> "Sacred to the memory of James M'Lauchlan, surgeon, Dumfries. His youth was spent in the successful pursuit of professional knowledge ; his manhood was devoted to the unwearied, faithful, and benevolent exercise of his high art. His life was signalised by the virtues of the Christian. His death followed his ministrations amid a plague-stricken people, and bore the evidence of that faith in which he lived. Born 14th March 1798 ; died 10th December 1848."

The most recent monumental acquisition of the porch is a graceful marble tablet, displaying a sword-supported scroll, which in a few words, as follows, unfolds a mournful tale of youthful patriotism and sacrifice, and of paternal sorrow for an irreparable loss :

> "In memory of William Anderson Johnston, Lieutenant Royal Welsh Fusileers, eldest son of W. G. F. Johnston, Esq. of Garroch, Major, Scottish Borderers Militia, who died in the service of his country at sea, when returning from the Ashantee War, 28th February 1874, aged 26."

THE WALLS OF THE CHURCH.

On all the four outside walls of the Church memorial tablets have been affixed, which we proceed to notice, beginning with those which commemorate ministers of the parish, four in number. The third monument on the north side bore the honoured name of William Veitch, together with some notice of his sufferings and services ; but the record, written upon soft Castledykes stone, has long since been rendered illegible by the wind and rain. When first set up, it must have occupied a different position on the outside of the old walls, which were removed in 1744, to make way for those of the existing fabric. The original site of the tablet is indicated by two Kirk-Session minutes, the first of which is in these terms :—"January 26th, 1721. The Reverend Mr. William Vetch, minister, desiring a burial place may be alowed him and his wife at the side of the wall betwixt the south-west and north-west doors within the church; that room to be inspected by the members as they go forth from this sederunt." The "room" was visited accordingly, and the following act was drawn up on the 2d of next month: "This day the Session, taking under their consideration, the desire of the Rev. William Vetch, minister of the Gospell in Dumfries, which was proposed last session day anent a burial-room, and the room having been visited, the Session thought fit to allow, and hereby does allow, the said Mr. William Vetch and his spouse* a burial-room within the Church immediately at the wall side betwixt the two doors towards the south-west and north-east, under the charity broad end, opposite to the stairs that goes up to the Merchants' loft."

Though the laconic story once told by the stone memorial of the deceased minister has been lost, he will not on that account fall out of remembrance, as the part he took in the troublous times of the Persecution and his subsequent career have been amply chronicled by the historians of the period. Mr. Veitch was born at Roberton, Clydesdale, on 27th April 1640, and was the youngest son of the minister of that parish. To some extent his fortunes were mixed up with those of the martyrs Welsh and Grierson, of whom we had much to say in chapter twenty-fifth. Like them, he took part in the battle of Pentlands, having been induced by John Welsh, minister of Irongray, and others, to cast in his lot with the daring little band who began "Freedom's battle" against "Prelacie and Tyrannie," though for the time being their cause seemed desperate, and its advocacy brought death to many of them, and sore trials to them all. After the Covenanting ranks were broken on Rullion Green, Mr. Veitch, to use his own words, "fell in with a whole troop of the enemy, who turned his horse violently in the dark, and carried him along with them, not knowing but that he was one of their own." Fearing that his demeanour might betray him, he kept outside of the troop as well as possible, and the moon beginning to shine forth as they descended in pursuit of the fugitive insurgents, he thought his only chance of eluding discovery was to spur his horse up the hill, and get out of sight. No sooner had this movement been made by him than cries of "There goes one of the rogues who commanded the rebels" greeted his ears, followed by more dangerous salutes in the form of leaden balls that came whizzing about him, dangerously near. His good steed, however, carried him away safely to a friend's house on Dunsyre Common, less than a mile distant from his own dwelling at Westhills.

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* "October 24th 1728. A Kirk-Session minute of this date shews that Mr Veitch had mortified "one hundred marks Scots for the use of the poor" to be paid within a year and a day after the decease of himself and spouse; the annual rent or interest to be laid out for behoof of the poor at the discretion of the ministers, elders, and deacons, nominated as administrators of the fund by the said Mr. Veitch."—*Vide List on Page 355.*

For more than twenty years afterwards Mr. Veitch was a marked man, and had he not, by crossing the Borders, baffled the search that was made for him, it is almost certain that, like Welsh, Grierson, and scores of other Pentland heroes, he would have perished on the scaffold. He resided for a long period in the north of England, ministering on sufferance to various attached congregations; but twelve years after his southward flight he was apprehended near Morpeth on the double charge of being an unlawful teacher of English Nonconformists, and a fugitive, traitorous outlaw from Scotland. When brought before the Scottish Privy Council accused of having been engaged in the Pentland rising, he boldly laid the burden of proof to that effect on his accusers, and as evidence they had none, he was sent back to jail, the wonder being that they did not by the thumbikins or the boot, as was their wont in such obstinate cases, try to make the prisoner criminate himself. While still in durance, a sentence of death that had been passed upon him in 1666, or the year afterwards, was brought up anew; and he who had had many hair-breadth escapes seemed to be fatally snared at last. Not so, however; an opportune change having taken place in the King's counsellors, and great influence having been used to save Mr. Veitch, the sentence was commuted to one of banishment from Scotland "during the days of his natural life," so that he was left free to go back to his friends in Northumberland. The persecuted minister outlived most of those who either sat in judgment upon him, or directed the despotism of which they were the tools. The radiance of the Revolution that came too late for many of his martyred compeers shone full upon him, and rejoicing in its light he returned to his native land, no longer a wandering outlaw hated and despised by turns, but receiving a gracious welcome home as a heroic Christian minister and patriot. Accepting one of several calls given to him he settled down at Peebles for four years, after which he was invited both by an Edinburgh congregation and by that of Dumfries to become their pastor. He preached in St. Michael's Church, and being pleased with the people and their mode of receiving him, he gladly responded to their call, when the General Assembly ruled that he should accept it, rather than the competing one from Edinburgh. Accordingly, Mr. Veitch was duly inducted minister at Dumfries in September 1694. Between the stones of the Martyrs and the pulpit of St. Michael's the space is small, admitting of an easy measurement ; but who can measure the magnitude of the moral change in virtue of which their fellow-witness—once deemed, like them, worthy of death—was now honoured as a faithful son of the Church, and as a loyal subject of the King !

Mr. Veitch was four times moderator of the Provincial Synod ; and further evidence of the respect borne towards him by his ministerial brethren appears in the following extract from the Presbytery Records : "On the 10th of September 1696—The Presbytery, considering that it is an ancient and laudable custom of this Church to send some of their number to the place where Parliament sits, to confer with such other ministers as may be commissioned by other Presbyteries, on things which may be needful for the glory of God and the Church's welfare, do hereby commissionate and appoint Mr. William Veitch to attend at Edinburgh for that effect during the session of Parliament."

He had by his wife, Marion Fairley, ten children, four of whom died young, and as his daughters married into wealthy families, and his sons were early provided for, he found himself in easy circumstances during his latter years, and had the means of showing his liberality to many, including some from whom he had experienced nothing but injury. On one occasion Sir Theophilus Oglethorp, by whom he had been apprehended in Northumberland, paid the minister a visit, and explained that after the Revolution he had lost all the money paid to him for his services by the previous Government, and was now in reduced circumstances, whereupon "Mr. Veitch forgave him any injury which he had done him, and made the humbled knight a handsome present."* Another anecdote, which is better known, will bear repetition. Mr. Veitch had been of some service to Mr. (afterwards Sir Gilbert Elliot) when that young lawyer stood in need of friends, for which favour the latter had afterwards an opportunity of showing his gratitude; and when they met under altered circumstances in Dumfries, their conversation often turned upon the perilous days of the Persecution. At one time when thus engaged Sir Gilbert good humouredly remarked, "Ah! Willie, Willie! had it not been for me the pyets would have been pyking your pate on the Netherbow Port," and Mr. Veitch's happy response was, "Ah! Gibbie, Gibbie! had it not been for me, ye would yet hae been writing papers for a plack the page?"

On the 19th of May 1715, Mr Veitch being then aged about 75, demitted his charge, and in May 1722, this "good and faithful servant" entered into his reward on high. His devoted spouse, who had been united to him for fifty-eight years, predeceased him by a single day, and they were interred together. Two of their sons attained eminence in the army—one of them, Captain William Veitch, acting creditably as the military chief of the ill-starred Darien Expedition; Ebenezer, their youngest son, followed his father's profession, and was long minister of Ayr; Elizabeth, their second daughter, became the wife of David M'Culloch of Ardwall; Sarah, their third daughter, was married to

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* M'Crie's Memoirs of Veitch, p. 215.

James Young of Gullyhill; and Agnes, their fourth daughter, was married to the Rev. John Somerville of Carlaverock.

Mr. Veitch was succeeded as minister of the parish by Robert Paton, formerly of Carlaverock, who had acted as his colleague since February 1696; and Mr. Paton having been appointed minister of the New Church congregation when that was formed in 1727, the incumbency of St. Michael's devolved upon another of Mr. Veitch's assistants, Mr. Patrick Linn A.M., his sphere of labour being thus defined by the Presbytery: "The whole country parish with that part of the town which lyes next to the said church extending to the end of Lochmaben-gate on the east-side, and to Hoddam's lodging on the other side, containing about six hundred and ninety five examinable persons from ten years old and upwards in that part of the town, beside the landward parish." At the time the Burgh was threatended by the rebels under Lord Kenmure, Mr. Linn took an active part in the preparations for its defence. To him and to Mr. John Somerville, minister of Carlaverock, the special duty was assigned of maintaining a guard at Bankend to foil any attempt that might be made to attack the town in that direction by the Jacobite followers of Lord Nithsdale. He died at an early age. An imposing monument to his memory was erected by his widow, who, in the words it bears, seems to have spoken out of the fulness of her heart. It is a mural structure, near the south door of the Church, pillastered, and ornate with emblematic devices according to the fashion which then prevailed. A seraph's head, with wings overspreading a Bible open at Psalm xxxvi. 6, "Thy judgments are a great deep," occupies the pediment; a sand-glass, cross bones, sexton's implements, and crania, figure conspicuously as side ornaments; the tablet, somewhat time-worn, being thus inscribed:

"Here lies the body of the Revd. Mr. Patrick Linn, ordain'd minister of Drumfries May 12th 1715. Who was adorn'd with bright natural parts, solid learning, and unaffected piety. He with unwearied diligence and unusual success studied the knowledge of the several parts of Divine Revelation, especially the perfections of God, the depravity of humane nature, man's recovery and salvation by Christ, and all the parts of practical religion; all which he delivered in public with uncommon eloquence, undaunted courage, and impartial freedom, to the edification of many. He was faithfull in every relation, of a truely Christian spirit, hating dissimulation and craft in every shape, candid, just, benevolent, bountiful, &c. He died Aug. 1st, 1731, in the 44th year of his age. Erected by Alison Charters, his widow, from a just regard to his memory. 1733."

Turning again to the north side of the church, we there find, near the decayed Veitch memorial, a neat tablet in honour of Mr. Linn's immediate successor, Mr. Robert Wight, A.M., and who, before being called to St. Michael's, officiated as minister of Torthorwald, and at Brampton. It is thus inscribed :

"To the memory of the Rev. Mr. Robert Wight, minister, whose uniform life of piety & virtue, calm temper, and gentle manners at once prov'd & enforc'd the doctrines of religion, which he taught with much ability & zeal. Tenderly belov'd by his family & friends ; and respected by all, he died sincerely regretted, Decr. 4th 1764, in the 80th year of his age, the 53d of his ministry, and the 33d of his charge in this parish."

Below this inscription appears the following one :

"Sacred to the memory of Alison Wight, daughter of the above Rev. Robert Wight, who departed this life on the 26th day of February 1834, in the 91st year of her age. With mind benevolent, active and pious, she lived the life of the righteous, and her latter end was peace. This stone is erected as a tribute of grateful affection by M. E. Ross."

An adjoining tablet bears an inscription which commemorates Mr. Wight's successor as follows :

"In affectionate remembrance of Revd. Dr. Thomas Mutter, Minister of this Church, who died 25th Dec. 1793, in the 83d year of his age, and 57th of his ministry. No less distinguished for the piety of his life and the purity of his manners, than conspicuous for his great learning, correct taste, and concise expression. His wife, Isobel Costine, survived him upwards of 28 years, exhibiting that blessed equanimity and pious resignation to the will of God which distinguished her through life. She died on the 22d day of January 1822, aged 87 years."

Dr. Mutter officiated in Auchtermuchty before coming to Dumfries. He received his degree of D.D. from the University of Glasgow. As previously mentioned, he is represented by John Mayne as saying grace at the magistrates' dinner held in connection with the Silver Gun competition of 1777. Mayne states in a note that Dr. Mutter "was a gentleman of distinguished talents, of great eloquence as a preacher, and very eminent as a theologian."

Another Dumfries clergyman of the last century receives commemoration as follows from a handsome mural erection placed near the chief entrance door on the right:

> "In memory of the Revd. Mr. John Scott. He was born A.D. 1697; advanced to the ministry of the Gospel at Holywood, February 4th 1725; translated to the New Church of Dumfries, November 30th 1732; and died April 17th, 1770. Universally esteemed and regretted, the virtues of his character in private and public life will be long remembered, and most justly, with veneration, by his family, congregation, and acquaintance. He was an affectionate husband and parent, a warm and steady friend, a learned and able divine, a pathetic and instructive preacher, a faithful reprover of vice, and a bright pattern of the duties he taught. He was a sensible and cheerful companion, possessed of extensive knowledge; remarkable for his accuracy in the discipline and government of this church, and most zealous for the public weal—ii. Tim., chap. 4, v. 7 and 8. Also of Christian Wardrop of Fouldshields, Linlithgowshire, his wife, who died 18th December, 1782."

We learn from an intimation on the plinth that this fine old monument was restored in 1870 by the Rev. Dr. James Maitland of Kells, great grandson of the deceased, the workman employed having been Mr. Thomas Watson.

CHAPTER XXVII.

THE WALLS OF THE CHURCH—CONTINUED.

NEAR the Wight monument appears a fine mural tablet with rich ornamental pediment raised to the memory of Samuel Clark, sen., Commissary Clerk of Dumfries for upwards of fifty years, who died 1st June 1815, at the great age of 89; also of Mary Wight, his wife, died 27th March 1779, aged 38. Mr. Mayne, in a note to *The Siller Gun*, states that when the farm of Craigs was in the possession of Mr. Samuel Clark, "he generously granted the use of the ground for the competition when required by the craftsmen; and they in return enrolled his name as a freeman in all their corporations, proud of an opportunity of manifesting their respect for a gentleman whose urbanity and goodness of heart have on all occasions endeared him to the community." Mrs. Clark was the daughter of the Rev. Robert Wight, and it was her son who was so honourably associated with Burns, as described in a preceding chapter.

A massive table-stone in front commemorates Mrs. Alison Moffat, grand-daughter of the Rev. Robert Wight, died 10th February 1848, aged 77; Jean Clark, died 26th April 1854, aged 85; Helen Clark, widow of the late Richard Howat of Mabie, died 3d March 1855, aged 79, "both daughters of Samuel Clark, Commissary and Justice of Peace Clerk of Dumfries, and grand-daughters of the above-named Rev. Robert Wight."

Since our notice of Mr. Samuel Clark, junior, was written, his venerable widow has passed away. Mrs. Clark, whose maiden name was Nicholson, was born at Whitehaven in or about 1782. After her marriage with Mr. Clark, she took up her abode in the County town, and for half a century or more resided in Castle Street, where she died 19th May 1876. Mrs. Clark was a lady of more than ordinary intellect. Shrewd, well-informed, and sagacious, she was also exceedingly warm-hearted, and felt a special pleasure in relieving distress, being ever ready also with both hand and purse to promote all movements that had the moral or social advancement of the community in view. The Boys' Home, which has accomplished so much good under the fostering care of Mr. Gregan, was, we believe, originated at her suggestion. She was all along, we know, one of its best supporters, and indeed to all the charities of the Burgh she proved a liberal patroness. By her husband the deceased lady had three daughters, all of them noted for their beauty and accomplishments. One of the three, now dead, was married to the late Mr. George Maxwell of Glenlee, another survives as the widow of the late Rev. Dr. George John C. Duncan, and the third is the wife of Mr. Gladstone, of Capenoch.

The first wall monument on the north side of the Church commemorates George Mackenzie of Netherwood. It consists of a marble tablet resting upon a capacious urn cut in high relief, and of a pediment bearing a stag's head with the motto "Laudet Diversa Sequentes." The workmanship, from the chisel of Mr. Alexander Crombie, father of Bailie Crombie, is very fine ; the leaf ornaments which festoon the tablet being particularly graceful. A part of the inscription has become illegible, but that which remains bears testimony to the worth of the deceased, and the services rendered by him to the agriculture of the district ; and we are told he was not more noted "as an improver of the soil by his judicious instruction and example" than he was distinguished and esteemed in private life "for his domestic, friendly, and social virtues." He died 24th May, 1781, at the early age of 37, "leaving an amiable and disconsolate widow and two children." It is stated further that the monument was erected by George Mackenzie, "his grateful and affectionate brother," 1782. The widow above mentioned, Marion Stewart, who died 1st January, 1792, aged 40, is also named upon the monument. She belonged to an old and respected family who have been settled in Shambellie, Kirkcudbrightshire, for several centuries. More recently the name of Kenneth Mackenzie has been added to the name of his parents in the inscription. He died at Jamaica, 10th January 1816, aged 42.

A respected merchant of the Burgh, John M'George. and who was for some time also one of its bailies, receives commemoration from the tablet next to that of Mr. Veitch. Mr. M'George, who was very serviceable and efficient as a J.P. during his latter years, died 23d November 1851, aged 66. His infant son, Charles, is also named in the inscription.

As we have already seen, not a few representatives of the Dumfries branch of the Annandale Irvings lie in this Churchyard; and we now reach two tablets commemorating several members of the original stock. One tablet bears the names of Robert Irving, Lieutenant-Colonel of the 70th Regiment, "a brave and deserving officer, and very humane man, who lost his life in the West Indies in the service of his country," 5th October 1794, aged 50 years; and of his son William, who died young. John Irving, designated of Bonshaw—the cradle of the house, was the father of the gallant officer. The other stone is

> "Sacred to the memory of Mrs Judith Irving, daughter of Wm. Westfield, Esq , of Kent, wife of Paulus Æmilius Irving, Esq. of Woodhouse, Govr. of Upnor Castle, youngest son of Wm. Irving, Esq., of Bonshaw, by his wife the Honrble. Æmilia Rolla, eldest daughter of the Rt. Honrble. Andw. Lord Rollo and his wife the Hon. Margt. Balfour, daughter of Lord Burleigh. She died the xiii. of May MDCCXCIII., in the lxxii. year of her age."

John Irving, of Bonshaw, married in 1670 Sarah, daughter of Sir William Douglas, of Kelhead, Bart. They left four sons, John, who succeeded to Bonshaw, being the eldest, and Lieut.-Colonel Paulus Æmilius of Woodhouse and Robgill. He (as stated on the tablet) married Judith, daughter of Captain William Westfield, died 22nd April 1796. His eldest son was created a baronet 19th September 1809. John Irving, of Bonshaw (the elder brother) left two sons, William, of Bonshaw, and Robert. William married 13th November 1767, Janet, daughter of Sir John Douglas, Bart., grandson of the Marquis of Queensberry, and whose grandson in turn inherited that title. He built the modern dwelling-house of Bonshaw in 1777 out of the ruins of the former edifice. His brother, Lieut.-Colonel Robert Irving is the person mentioned on the first tablet.

On the south wall there is a spacious erection, divided into four parts, devoted to members or relatives of the M'Murdo family, many others of whom, as lying in this Cemetery, have been already noticed. On the upper part, which is of marble, the Christian name "Philadelphia" appears, as borne by the daughter of James Douglas of Dornock, a cadet of the great house of Douglas; and by marrying Robert M'Murdo of Drungans, her peculiar name became "a household word" in the family of her husband. Its application to the daughter of Burns's friend, celebrated by the poet as "Phely" and "Phillis the Fair," will be remembered by many of our readers. The inscription on the monument to Philadelphia Douglas is as follows:

"To the memory of Philadelphia Douglas, daughter of James Douglas of Dornock, and wife of Robert M'Murdo of Drungans, who, having lived in this frail world xxxi. years, adorned with innocence and the most amiable virtues, was called to immortality by the great Rewarder of the good upon the vi. of February, MDCCLIV. This monument was erected by her disconsolate husband. Here lys also Robert M'Murdo, her husband, who died June 25, 1776, aged 50 years."

"Nor herb, fruit, flower,
Glist'ring with dew, nor fragrance after showers,
Nor grateful evening mild, nor walk by moon
Or glittering starlight, without thee is sweet."

The above lines are quoted from *Paradise Lost*, Book iv., and form part of an address from Eve to Adam.

The lower divisions are of granite, one of which is thus inscribed:

"Sacred to the memory of Jane Blair, widow of the late John M'Murdo, Esq., who departed this life on the 19th of April 1836, in her 88th year. 'The memory of the just is blessed.' 'Kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation,' she leant upon Jesus as the Lord her righteousness and her strength, and through grace was privileged to exemplify that wisdom which cometh from above, which is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be entreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality and without hypocrisy. Honoured, respected, and beloved, her memorial is written on the hearts of her children. They rise up and call her blessed; her husband, also, for he trusted in her."

Jane Blair was daughter of Provost Blair, who ruled over Dumfries, 1782-3 and 1790-1-2; her husband was the Chamberlain at Drumlanrig, above spoken of as Burns's friend, and it was their eldest daughter, Jean, of whom he sang in the exquisite strain, beginning

"There was a lass and she was fair,
At kirk and market to be seen;
When a' the fairest maids were there
The fairest maid was bonnie Jean;

and another daughter was the Philadelphia already mentioned, who is the heroine of at least four of the poet's songs. Mrs. M'Murdo was a lady of good natural parts, which enabled her to enjoy the society of the gifted bard when at any time during his best moods he paid a visit to the Castle. How much Burns appreciated his kind hostess may be inferred from a letter he addressed to her, dated Ellisland, 2nd May, 1789, in which he says: "I have finished the piece which had the happy fortune to be honoured with your approbation; and never did little Miss with more sparkling pleasure shew her applauded samplar than I now send my poem to you and Mr. M'Murdo. You cannot easily imagine what thin-skinned animals—what sensitive plants poor poets are. How do we shrink into the embittered corner of self-abasement when neglected or condemned by those to whom we look up! and how do we, in erect importance add another cubit to our stature on being noticed and applauded by those whom we honour and respect. My late visit to Drumlanrig has I can tell you Madam, given me a balloon waft up Parnassus, where on my fancied elevation, I regard my poetic self with no small degree of complacency. Surely with all their sins the rhyming tribe are not ungrateful creatures. I recollect your goodness to your humble guest—I see Mr. M'Murdo adding to the politeness of the gentleman, the kindness of a friend, and my heart swells as it would burst with warm emotion and ardent wishes! It may be it is not gratitude—it may be a mixed sensation. That strange, shifting, doubting animal MAN is so generally at best but a negative, often a worthless creature, that we cannot see real goodness and native worth, without feeling the bosom glow with sympathetic approbation."

An inscription on another division of the monument states that

"Near this spot is deposited the mortal remains of Frances, wife of Douglas Veitch M'Murdo, who departed this life on the 25th day of November 1813."

On two venerable monuments near by we find the names of the wife and daughter-in-law of another "outed" minister, Robert Archibald, A.M., who received his degree from Glasgow University in 1643, was admitted to the charge of Dunscore in 1651, and was deprived by the Acts of 11th June, 1662, and of the Privy Council 1st October, 1662. He died in Edinburgh 6th May 1688, aged about 63, when in the 39th year of his ministry, leaving a widow, four daughters, and one son, a medical practitioner. A Kirk-Session minute of 27th July 1732, and another dated on the 24th of the following month, supply some interesting information respecting these memorials. The first-named entry is as follows: "This day, Mrs. Archibald, relict of Doctor George Archibald, gave in a petition to the Session craving they would appoint some of their number to inspect some tombstones belonging to her, and grant ane act of Session in her favour, in compliance wherewith the Session appoint [Robert Maxwell of] Shelloch, and Bailie Gilchrist, to inspect those she claims and report to the Session." The next minute sets forth that the two gentlemen above named had gone with Dean Walls "to inspect some burial places belonging to the deceast Mr. Adam Key, minister of the Gospel at Holywood and Doctor George Archibald," and "found upon the Church wall at the entry of Cunningham's isle an inscription bearing that Elizabeth Key, relict of the deceast Mr. Robert Archibald, minister at Dunscore, was buried there, as also two grave stones lying contiguous to it. They also found at six or seven feet distance a stone with this inscription 'Mr. A. K,' as also on the east side of the Church at the entry to the Hammermen's loft an inscription on the wall bearing that Margaret Londy, spouse to Doctor George Archibald, was buried there, as also four grave stones adjacent thereto, whereof one was lying and the other three standing." The report was approved of, and an extract of the minute was allowed to the petitioner in evidence of her right to "the foresaid burial places and tombstones."

The monument to Mrs. Archibald is of headstone form with figure of a large winged cherub in bold relief hovering on the pediment; the words below intimating that Marion Archibald "relict of the deceast Doctor Archibald, physician in Drumfries," lies near the spot, died 23rd September, 1735, age not recorded. She left £60 sterling—a large sum at that period—to be laid out on good security for the better maintenance of two poor widows, not under 60 years of age, relicts of burgesses and indwellers of Dumfries; and which charity is now administered by the directors of Moorheads' Hospital.*

A very antique aspect is given to the neighbouring memorial of Mrs. Archibald's mother-in-law, owing to the letters being cut in relief of a primitive pattern. The inscription is in the following terms:

> "Here lyes Eliz. Key, relict of Mr. Rot. Archibald, late minister of the Gospel at Dinscor, 1709.
>
> Meek, modest, prudent, wise, and good,
> As all that knew her understood,
> Most patient in life and death,
> A pattern to her latest breath.
>
> Vivit post funera virtus.
>
> Here also lyes Jean Archibald, her eldest daughter."

It appears sufficiently plain from the Session minutes quoted above that these two stones must have been originally placed on the east side of the Church, in the direction of the monument to Bailie Key, who belonged to the same family as the Rev. Mr. Archibald's spouse, Elizabeth Key. Resting on the east side of the sacred edifice, near the north-east corner, we discover a large loose slab, which commemorates George Archibald, that lady's son. Neighbouring stones press upon the relic so closely as almost to veil it from cursory observation; but, neglected though it now is, it must when entire have presented an imposing appearance with its carved escutcheon and richly chased border. It might with great propriety be removed from its obscure position and placed near the kindred memorials, where room for it could easily be found below the middle window of the Church on the south side. This "Doctor of Medicine," as he is termed in the inscription, was one of many distinguished medical men produced by the Burgh both in ancient and modern times. He flourished early last century, his death occurring 6th May 1715 (the year of the first Jacobite Rebellion), at an age which is not specified. Crossing the stone in oblong fashion is the following brief epitaph :

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* Other instances of this lady's charitable disposition are recorded in the following Kirk-Session minutes:—"January 26th, 1721. Report being made by Mr. Patoun, minister, that Mrs. Archibald, relict of the deceast Doctor George Archibald, hath payed for the use of the poor twenty shill. starling, in consideration of the seat in the Church presently possessed by her, notwithstanding she had been allowed to sit there during her life time gratis, the clerk is to give her ane extract of this, as it is marked in our minuts." "July 19th, 1722. This day report was made that Mrs. Archibald, relict of Doctor George Archibald, gave in compliment for the use of the poor in this toun one lib two ounces of fine silk fringes for repairing the poors' velvet mortcloath [pall] for which the Session returns her thanks."

> "Clarus in Arte fuit Medica, pius æquus amator Doctrinæ et Morum lepidus cunctis-que benignus."

The inscription may be thus translated :

> "He was distinguished in the medical profession, pious, upright, a lover of learning and morals, amiable and kind to all."

Long before the Union and afterwards the name of Ewart occupied a place in the list of our merchant burgesses. For many generations members of the family were found occupying an influential position at the Council Board, as well as taking a leading part in the trade of the town and port. One of them, John Ewart, was elevated to the provostship in 1736, and twice afterwards the same high honour was conferred upon him. Closely related to the Dumfries Ewarts were the Ewarts of Mulloch, an estate which Bailie John Ewart of Kirkcudbright acquired so far back as 1611 ; and when, in 1841, William Ewart, his direct descendant, was chosen representative of the Five Burghs, which include the capitals of Dumfriesshire and the Stewartry, the family and the district became united by a new and more powerful tie.

These considerations occur to us as we survey three monuments on the south side of the Church, each bearing the familiar and honoured name. The first in order is a rare old piece of workmanship with coat of arms and pilasters very richly carved ; a heart pierced with three swords figures on the heraldic shield, the self-reliant, not to say defiant, motto round it being "Nemo potest vincere." Three cherub heads, winged, are sculptured below ; then follows the inscription, "To the memory of Margaret Wells, spouse of James Ewart of Mulloch, who died upon the 26th day of October 1739, aged 25 years."

The second stone, which is of simple construction, commemorates Agnes Grierson, "relict of the Rev. Mr. Andrew Ewart, minister of Kells, who died 8th December, 1758, aged 75."

Between the Ewarts and Yorstouns, the latter of whom is now represented by Mr. Carthew Yorstoun of Tinwald (who unsuccessfully contested the Dumfries Burghs in 1874 with Mr. Ernest Noel) there is a close connection, brought about, as we learn from Dr. Ramage, in the following way. The founder of the Dumfries branch of the Yorstoun family was the Rev. Peter Yorstoun, minister of Kells, who came from Shetland, and was educated at Glasgow University towards the middle of last century. In these primitive days it was a custom of divinity students during the summer holidays to make tours through the provinces, and to call at the manses on the way, where they were generally received with much kindness. Mr. Yorstoun, when following this practice, visited the manse of Kells, where he met with a hearty welcome from the Rev. Andrew Ewart and his spouse, the Agnes Grierson of the memorial just noticed; and their acquaintance improved so much that Mr. Yorstoun became eventually Mr. Ewart's assistant, son-in-law, and successor.*

The third monument of the series consists of a large square tablet surmounted by a pinnacle jutting from the wall. It bears the following interesting record:

"In memory of James Ewart, Esquire, younger, of Mulloch, who died on the 4th day of March 1799, aged 92 years; also, Margaret Christie, his spouse, who died on the 15th day of February aged 62 years: also, Andrew Ewart, their eldest son, who died on the 1st day of May 1768, aged 24 years; also, James Ewart, their second son, who died on the 26th day of November 1777, aged 32 years; and of Peter Ewart, their youngest son, who, after having been many years a surgeon in India, returned to his native place in 1805, and died at Rosefield 28th April 1822, aged 64 years; also of Jane Lundie, widow of the above Peter Ewart, Esq., of Rosefield, who died at Camberwell, near London, 22 January 1849, aged 60 years."

Provost Ewart suffered no small amount of persecution for conscience sake in the reign of Charles II. His son Andrew

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* *Drumlanrig and the Douglases*, by Craufurd T. Ramage, LL.D., p.378.

(as we learn from Hew Scott) obtained the degree of A.M. from the University of Edinburgh in 1679 ; he was ordained in 1691 ; and died 10th January 1739, in the 78th year of his age and 48th of his ministry. One of his daughters, as we have just seen, was married to the Rev. Peter Yorstoun, who succeeded him at Kells, and who was translated to Closeburn in 1763.

We learn from an existing charter, issued under the great seal of Robert II., that George de Dunbar, Earl of March and Lord of Annandale, granted to Nigel Ewart the lands of Smallgyllis and Syftynhowys so far back as 26th June 1373. The name continues to occur in other charters till the Galloway branch is reached in the person of Andrew Ewart in Grange ; and through the medium of a family tree, compiled by Mr. J. C. Gracie, genealogist, all the Ewarts named on the memorial stones in St. Michael's can be easily traced back to the Andrew just named, who settled in the Stewartry, towards the close of the sixteenth century, and officiated as treasurer of Kirkcudbright in 1583. It was his son, Bailie John Ewart, who became laird of Mulloch ; and the latter was succeeded by his eldest son of the same name, who was for a lengthened period chief-magistrate of Kirkcudbright. Provost Ewart again was succeeded as proprietor of Mulloch by his eldest son John, who also occupied the civic chair of Kirkcudbright. John Ewart, his eldest son, fourth of the name, reached a higher honour than any of his predecessors, he having been chosen to represent the Stewartry in the first Parliament held by King William after the Revolution Settlement. The Rev. Andrew Ewart, whose wife is commemorated by the second stone of the series, was the son of Mr. John Ewart, M.P. She was the daughter of John Grierson of Capenoch, and aunt of Susannah, wife of Sir Thomas Kirkpatrick of Closeburn (a lineal descendant of "Mac-Siccar" Kirkpatrick." John, another son of the minister of Kells by his wife, Agnes Grierson, was minister of Troqueer from 1741 till the date of his death in 1799 ; and his son William, a merchant in Liverpool, was father of the distinguished senator, who, after representing the Dumfries Burghs for twenty-seven years, died at his seat of Broadlees 29th January 1869. The husband of Margaret Wells, who is named on the first monument, was the eldest son of the Rev. Andrew Ewart, and was for several years Sheriff-Substitute of Dumfriesshire. He was the same James Ewart of Mullock who is commemorated on the third stone together with his second wife, Margaret Christie of Bakerton, Edinburgh, and their children. Andrew, their eldest son, was killed in early manhood by a fall from his horse. Peter, their youngest son, built the mansion of Rosefield, Troqueer, of which parish his uncle John was minister, and in the burial-ground of that church the worthy clergyman reposes. The inscription on his tombstone may here be given in connection with the epitaphs of his kindred, as quoted above :

> "In memory of the Rev. John Ewart, for fifty-eight years the revered pastor of this parish, who died 5th September 1799, in the 84th year of his age ; leaving to his successor and surviving brethren a bright example of the kind affections which endear, and the Christian virtues that adorn, the sacred office that he so long and so faithfully filled."

The next mural tablet we have to notice was erected near the south-east corner by William Johnston, a successful West India planter, in remembrance of his spouse, Rebecca Ressin, who died at Kelton 2nd January, 1802, aged 43. After realising a handsome competency in Demerara, of which island Mrs. Johnston was a native, Mr. Johnston spent his latter days in the neighbourhood of Dumfries. The tablet, a neat marble one, now very much decayed, commemorates also himself, died 17th November, 1846, aged 73 ; and his mother Elizabeth Rowlandson, died 18th March 1789, aged 50.

A slab laid in front of Mr. Linn's monument bears the name of John Brand, watchmaker, died 15th December 1802, aged 48 ; also those of his sons Joseph and William, the former of whom died 24th June 1799, aged 21 ; the latter 4th August 1810, aged 28. The following verse from *Gray's Elegy* is embodied in the inscription :

> " Can storied urn or animated bust,
>   Back to its mansion call the fleeting breath ;
> Can honour's voice provoke the silent dust,
>   Or flattery soothe the dull cold ear of death."

Below these beautiful lines, which must often recur to the memory of churchyard musers, appears a merited tribute to James Brand, representing him as "an affectionate husband, a fond father, and a sincere friend," who died "deeply regretted."

Close to the Archibald memorial rises a stone commemorating Robert Dickson of Kenbank, who for several years practised as a surgeon in the Burgh, died 14th June 1816, aged 42; also Gordon Wylie, his spouse; William, their infant son; and Janet, Mr. Dickson's sister, wife of William Dobie, Kingholm Quay, died 7th October 1832, aged 53.

On the marble tablet of a mural monument, adjoining the Terraughtie ground, on the east side, we read as follows:

> "Sacred to the memory of John Johnston, of Netherwood, Esq., an eminent merchant of the city of London, and one of her Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the County. He died the 28th day of April 1760, aged 65 years. This monument was erected in grateful remembrance by his brother, George Johnston, Esq., of London, merchant."

Passing from the Old Churchyard and the Old Church, with all their venerable memorials and hallowed associations, we proceed, in the chapters which remain, to notice the modern portion of the Cemetery.

CHAPTER XXVIII.

THE NEW GROUND.

ITS PURCHASE BY THE HERITORS.

TOWARDS the close of 1848, when Dumfries was suffering from a second visitation of cholera, the Kirk Session originated a movement for increasing the burial-ground of the parish. This they did on the 13th of December, by arranging for a joint meeting of the Burgh magistrates and landward heritors, which was held on the 28th, with the view of taking the subject into consideration. There were present—Provost Kennedy (in the chair), Bailie Nicholson, Bailie Leighton, Francis Maxwell, for F. C. Maxwell of Milnhead, J. B. Hepburn of Castledykes, Archibald Hamilton, for William M'Lellan of High Kelton, Philip Forsyth, one of the trustees of the late William Forsyth of Ladyfield, and Alexander Simpson, writer, for Mr. Campbell of Craigs. Drs. Wallace and Thomas T. Duncan were also in attendance. Mr. Hamilton initiated the proceedings with a few remarks, shewing that the Session felt themselves compelled by the crowded state of St. Michael's Churchyard to take steps for securing additional accommodation. After some discussion, a committee was appointed to consider "the whole matter" and report upon it, which they did to an adjourned meeting held 23d January 1849. Several pieces of ground were recommended by them as suitable, more especially "a small field about an acre in extent belonging to Mr [Charles] Hogg, adjoining the Churchyard at the east corner," which, they said, would "form merely an extension of the present burying-ground, and in the least objectionable quarter, being that furthest removed from any dwellings in the town." It was further stated by the committee that the owner of the field was quite prepared to sell it, and that "with the relief now afforded by St. Mary's burying-ground this addition would be sufficient for the wants of the parish for several generations."

Mr. Hogg, on being negotiated with, agreed to take

£280 for the field, excluding cost of titles, and the bargain was ratified by a meeting of the magistrates and heritors, held 29th November 1850, at which there were present the Rev. Dr. Wallace, Provost Nicholson, Bailie Leighton, Robert Kemp, Town-Clerk, James Hairstens of Acrehead, and John Thorburn, acting for Mr. Stott of Netherwood and proprietor of Mountainhall; the meeting resolving further that the disposition of the ground be taken "in favour of William Nicholson, present Provost, John Scott, present senior Bailie, and their successors in office, and of James Hairstens of Acrehead, Robert Threshie, and James Stewart, factor for William Douglas of Craigs, for behoof of the whole heritors of the parish." By means of a bill which these parties granted, the field was bought, and afterwards regularly laid out and enclosed according to a plan prepared by Bailie Andrew Crombie, architect. In 1862 the sums expended in purchasing the ground and adapting it for a place of sepulture had with interest risen to £674; the wall costing £107 17s 3d, levelling and superintendence £28 17s 10d, and the laying out of the walks £5. As a set off on the other side, £131 1s 6d had been received for grave plots at the same date; and nine years afterwards a goodly balance had been realised. On 19th June 1871, Mr. James H. M'Gowan, as clerk to the heritors, reported to a meeting of that body a balance of £347, as shewn by the accounts, which sum was divided among the parties who had advanced the purchase money; and out of the half of it which fell to the Burgh the Town Council voted £150 towards the expense of reseating the lower part of St. Michael's Church. From a second balance another dividend of £320 16s was declared on 10th June 1875, by means of which the whole sums advanced, with the interest upon them, were paid off; and there are allotments of space still remaining which when sold will yield another surplus.

GENERAL APPEARANCE OF THE GROUND.

On entering the ground through the wide ungated gap made in the old east wall we see at a glance that the dust of many hundred persons must be lying sepulchred below its turf. The ground, extending to an imperial acre, is oblong in shape, and already its walls on the north, south, and west are nearly covered with mortuary literature and sculpture; while a large portion of its surface "heaves with mouldering heaps," or is becoming florid with monumental erections. Many of the memorials are beautiful works of art, and their general appearance is imposing, though the element of the venerable, which gives a special character to the Old Ground, is nowhere to be seen. We look in vain for altar or table-stones, so many of which were noticed in preceding chapters: they went out of fashion just before the New Ground was opened, and their place is here occupied with headstones—usually larger in size and more graceful in shape than those displayed by the old part of the Cemetery—and with imposing pillars, shafts, canopies, and pyramids. Of Latin, long emphatically the language of epitaphs, no trace is found, except occasionally on a heraldic escutcheon, its use for monumental purposes being rare during the current century; sorrowing friends now preferring to commemorate their dead in the living language of the country, and generally making the record briefer and less elaborate than was customary in preceding centuries. How rapidly cell is being added to cell in this underground suburb of the modern Dumfriesians—of those who lately breathed and had their being in the animated town, and who are now making populous the narrow houses constructed for them by the sexton-architect!

We need not particularise in detail all the various edifices which, rising above the surface, present a striking contrast to the hidden dormitories with which they stand related; and even were we to do so the inventory that would be complete to-day would become fragmentary a few years hence, so rapidly is the soil becoming "sown" with the seed corn of humanity, deceased and disorganised, yet having in it the germs of a life that will never end. Meanwhile, therefore, we shall only notice in detail such monuments as have been erected in honour of noteworthy individuals, or which manifest superior artistic merit, or are in other respects remarkable; leaving the rest to be dealt with in more general terms.

THE SOUTH WALL.

On or near the south wall thirty-one tombstones are placed, the first of them being a stately pillar which commemorates John Fergusson of Douievale. Possessed of good business talents, sharpened by legal training, he took an active part in the Reform Bill agitation; and soon after that measure was made law he became one of the popularly-elected members of the Town Council, discharging his official duties with the utmost credit. For several years he filled the important office of Proctor, or Crown representative of the Vice-Admiralty Court, Island of Mauritius. On returning from abroad, he spent the remainder of his life in Dumfries, his native town. Mr. Fergusson was son-in-law of the late Provost Fraser. He died much regretted on the 26th December 1866, aged 55. The monument is of light grey Dalbeattie granite, and is a very graceful as well as imposing object.

Next to it appears a handsome edifice, on the pediment of which the figure of Justice, with sword and scales, the tables of the Mosaic Law, and the Statutes of the British realm are artistically chiselled: these emblems indicating that it is a judge who lies buried below—one who passed sentences upon his fellow-men — gone to give in his own account at the bar of a heavenly tribunal. "Blessed are those servants whom the Lord, when he cometh, shall find watching." These sacred words form part of the inscription; and if rightfully applied in this case, as we believe they were, the verdict of the Judge above would not be unfavourable. The monument is "Sacred to the memory of John Pitcairn Trotter, advocate, for twenty-eight years Sheriff-Substitute of Dumfriesshire." Died at Oakfield, 5th July 1867, aged 63. A Berwickshireman by birth, he was called to the bar in 1826, and entered upon his judicial duties here in 1839. Somewhat stern when on the bench, he was geniality itself when in the social circle. Not only was he a good lawyer and an able judge, but possessed of high literary acquirements, which were manifested in the pages of "Edward Lascelles," a novel, in translations from the German, and in a few poetical productions; and which might have borne still greater fruit had not the prosaic calls of professional business and other paramount requirements compelled him to throw aside the pen of authorship. His active duties as a Sheriff did not, however, hinder him from contributing valuable service to the general business of the County, or from rendering homage due to the claims of religion and benevolence. He was President of the Education Society from the date of its foundation till that of his own death, in which capacity he contributed greatly to its success—its Ragged School department affording a fitting field for his philanthropy.

Some paces further east we notice the memorial stone of Margaret Young, "born in February 1794, died in March, 1871;" and her husband the Rev. Robert Machray, M.A. The inscription states that he was "A minister of Christ in connection with the Congregational Union during a period of nearly forty-eight years, and for more than twenty-two years pastor of the Congregational Church, Dumfries. Born in May, 1799, died in January, 1873." Mr. Machray was a native of the north of Scotland, was educated at Aberdeen University, began his ministerial labours in 1825, nine years after which he became pastor of the Congregational Church, here, succeeding the Rev. Thomas Young, who had succeeded the first minister of the body, the Rev. John Dunn. As a preacher Mr. Machray occupied a high position. He was fluent, fervid, and when at his best had a fine soft dulcet voice, which he could modulate with great effect. There was always much of the Gospel in his discourses, and after ably expounding his subject matter and enriching his views with apt illustrations, he never closed without appealing powerfully to the consciences of his audience. From 1842 till 1854 he officiated in other charges, accepting in the latter year a cordial call to resume his pastorate in Dumfries. After a ministry not less faithful than protracted, he withdrew into private life in 1869, and passed peacefully away to his rest on 15th January, 1873. His youthful son, John Young, died in March, 1852, is also named on the monument.

Still further eastward appears a handsome monument in memory of Thomas Hairstens M'Gowan, writer. The eldest son of the late Provost M'Gowan, he manifested a hereditary aptitude for municipal affairs. While yet quite a stripling he entered upon public life; and, though cut off at an early age, he was for nearly twenty years one of our foremost men. He first acquired distinction as a promoter of the Lochrutton Water Scheme. Juvenile though he was when that great sanitary enterprise was first mooted, he brought to its advocacy the resources of a masculine intellect, which helped much to secure its success. Mr. M'Gowan became a member of the Town Council in 1856, there finding a fitting field for his superior debating powers, and also for the sagacity in dealing with local questions for which he was distinguished. While as a speaker he seldom rose to the highest kind of eloquence, he was singularly fluent and dexterous, and always so ready with his facts, arguments, and witty repartees, that the Burgh could boast of few, if any, who could match him in debate. While carrying on an extensive law practice with his brother, Mr. James H. M'Gowan, he was actively engaged in other important avocations, the chief of which were of a political kind, arising out of his connection with the Liberal party as Parliamentary agent for the late Mr. Ewart. On the tombstone there are three marble tablets, the middle one of which bears the name of the deceased, with the intimation that he died 12th May 1872, aged 50 years.

To many visitors of the Churchyard the latest erection on the south wall will have a primary interest, seeing that it marks the Long Home where rests the sweet laureate of Home Life, David Dunbar, lying hushed in a dreamless sleep with four of his children, William, Mary Armstrong, David, and William Hewitson Cairns. "I wish the bairns were hame," he sang in one of his finest lyrics:

"The house is unco still, gudewife,
I hear nae noise nor din;
Nae sweet wee voices lilt a sang,
Nor pattering feetie rin!"

And how emphatically "still" is this spot where father and offspring now "sleep the sleep that knows no waking" while time endures; yet we know that "the better being" does not end with death—that the narrow resting-place of the grave is but the avenue to life eternal. The comforting assurance of this truth was experienced by Mr. Dunbar when, smarting seventeen years ago under sore bereavement, he could say

"Fareweel my sweet bairnie! we'll soon meet again;
When my spirit is rid o' this sad world o' pain
Our souls will unite in those bright realms above
Where death is unknown amidst perfected love!
Fareweel, my wee Willie! a tender fareweel,
Till our spirits rejoice in the land o' the leal,
And my ain wasted form near thy wee head is laid
In the silent kirk-yard, 'neath thy daisy-clad bed!"

David Dunbar belonged to an old Dumfries family, some of whose members, as we remarked in a previous chapter, were men of decided genius, and was the eldest son of our respected townsman Mr. George Dunbar. For about twenty-one years he officiated as writing-master of the Academy, during which lengthened period he did much to mould the hand-writing of our present middle-class juveniles, and of the generation now grown up by which they were immediately preceded. Overflowing with emotion, and possessed of an ardent fancy, he devoted much of his leisure to poetical pursuits, the fruits of which enriched the local newspapers or were garnered in two separate volumes, one of which bore the date of 1859, the other embodying the matured products of his muse. The latter passed through the press whilst he was lying on "the brink of Jordan" waiting for the summons to cross, which reached him a few days after the book appeared—the "Poems of Home Life," that constitutes his own best monument. "Mr. Dunbar," says the Rev. David Hogg in a fine memorial sketch of the deceased, "had a very versatile muse, and went from grave to gay as the 'tid came owre him.'" In addition to his other publications, "he contributed to the *Dumfries Standard* several poetic pieces of considerable length, written in the native Doric, and full of humour and local historical lore. Of these the most important were 'The Cocks of the Steeples,' 'Ane Letter from ye Auld Brig,' 'What the Seven Trades Punch-bowl heard and saw,' 'Chronicles of the Greyfriars' Vennel,' 'Chronicles of the Greyfriars' Monastery,' The 'Bedesman's Budget,' 'Nights in the Globe,' 'A Reverie in Carlaverock Castle,' and 'A Nicht wi' Burns.' These all excited great interest on their appearance from week to week from the historical recollections of the past which they narrated, the persons represented when dialogue was introduced, such as Burns, Horace, Cunningham, the Ettrick Shepherd, and Mayne, and from the joviality of the scenes which were always agreeably social, but never boisterous." It will thus be seen that Mr Dunbar wrote on an immense variety of subjects; but we liked him best when depicting local incidents, grave or gay—when portraying the joys and sorrows of domestic life, or when his harp was tuned to themes of love and patriotism. By far the best of all Mr Dunbar's serious pieces appeared in the *Dumfries Standard*, in the form of an epistle to the editor, beginning "Another year of grace has fled," written on his sick-bed, just about four months before he died. Speaking of his general character, Dr. W. A. F. Browne, in a tribute to the deceased, says: "I liked the trusting, jubilant nature of the man, that he lived out and up to, according to his own quiet estimate of the poetic character and career; and I liked his poetry as speaking to my heart, home affections, and to those kindly thoughts and feelings which neither age nor darkness can efface." Besides his poetical accomplishments, Mr. Dunbar had a copious fund of general information, was an excellent converser, a popular platform lecturer, while in his intercourse with his fellows and in the family circle he gave a practical exemplification of the graces which he sang.

The monument is a very graceful one. It was commissioned by Mrs. Dunbar, to whom her husband's last volume was lovingly dedicated, and is, like many other edifices in the New Ground, the handiwork of Mr. Flint. A lyre, urn-surmounted, occupies a prominent place upon it, to express in emblematic language the poetical character of the deceased; the inscription itself being simply "In memory of David Dunbar, Writing Master, Dumfries Academy. Born 23d April, 1828, died 23d June, 1873," with the names of his departed children, as already given, followed by the words, "The Lord doeth all things well."

Invidious grave! how dost thou rend asunder,
Whom love has knit and sympathy made one!"

Of other husbands severed from their partners, and of wives made widows, we have along this wall abundant trace, monumental stones appearing to commemorate the following:

Nancy Robertson, wife of Lieutenant James Rutherford, a brave officer of the Old 94th Regiment, Scotch Brigade, who passed through numerous campaigns, and spent his latter days peacefully at Westpark, Maxwelltown. Mrs. Rutherford died 28th November 1867, aged 83. The monument to her memory is very neat and tasteful.

Caroline Scott Howat, wife of William Nibloe, the former a daughter of Convener Howat, the latter a son of Convener Nibloe. The monument is a very handsome cross-surmounted structure, the pediment of which exhibits a graceful sitting figure indulging in all the abandonment of inconsolable grief. Mrs. Nibloe died 6th April 1868, aged 53.

Agnes Coltart, wife of John Glover, seedsman, died 2d June 1870, aged 32, with Agnes, their infant daughter. In this instance the memorial stone, which is otherwise unadorned, displays a rich festooned pediment, which gives it a very fine effect.

Jane Brown, wife of the Rev. Alexander Murdoch, formerly of Berwick-on-Tweed, and now residing in the neighbourhood of Dumfries. Above the marble tablet which states that Mrs. Murdoch died 29th March 1872, aged 64, there are carved a coronetted fillet with hand and sword, and the motto, "Turris Fortis mihi Deus."

Hannah Hunter, wife of Alexander Borthwick, a designer of tweed patterns in the Nithsdale Mills. This edifice is not so ornate as some others in the row, but it is neat and well proportioned. Mrs. Borthwick died 21st May 1872, aged 38;

her son George, who died in early childhood, is also named in the inscription.

To Jane Paterson, wife of Alexander Borthwick, M.D., a very imposing and beautiful monument is devoted, a tall cross rising from a richly-bordered basement being its most characteristic feature. The tablet states that she died 1st July 1872, at the early age of 27.

Elizabeth Dalgleish, wife of the Rev. Thomas Bowman, formerly of Catrine, Ayrshire, and now residing in our own Burgh. The monument, with initial letter and leafage on the pediment, wears a very graceful aspect. Mrs. Bowman died 14th January 1873, aged 59.

Jessie Ellen Irving, wife of David Cameron, died 15th January 1873, at the youthful age of 21, whose name is borne by a cruciform structure, from the intersection of which a seraphic figure looks upward with smile serene; and Ann Bartle, spouse of George Gibson, spirit merchant, Maxwelltown, died 16th December 1874, at the venerable age of 82, swell the list of the monumented dead, who lie along the same line of wall.

A memorial to another departed wife remains to be noticed. It is in the form of a magnificent urn-surmounted obelisk, raised in loving remembrance of Margaret Richardson by her husband Richard Kirk. She died at the Railway Station Hotel 10th January 1873. The edifice is of Aberdeen granite, and is from the chisel of Mr. William Keith, jun., of that city.

Between these monuments of wives deceased, appear others scarcely less handsome in remembrance of departed husbands: William Paterson, Coffee House Hotel, died 4th November 1872, aged 49, the memorial in this instance being topped by a graceful urn; James Dickson, innkeeper, died 14th February 1873, aged 61, a garland with initial letter ornamenting the pediment; Robert Kerr, died 28th January 1873, aged 27, erected by Jessie Carradice, his spouse; George Drysdale, surgeon-dentist, died 23d February 1874, aged 32, erected by Janet Hamilton, his wife—their infant-son John being also named in the inscription.

"Dull Grave, thou spoil'st the dance of youthful blood!"

Some of his youthful victims, caught when heaven lay stretched around them, lie prisoned here in addition to those that have been already specified: Thomas Muir, son of George Muir, aged 14, whose last words, it is stated, were "Jesus, save me! Save me, Jesus;" Jane Moore Halliday, 6 years old, who is commemorated by a neat little monument, a massive urn upon which is festooned with a chaplet, the votive offering of parental love and sorrow; and Walter Murray Scott, son of Mr. Walter Henry Scott, manufacturer, fittingly commemorated by a pretty little rustic cross of pure white marble, seeing that infant innocence was his, when snatched away. The quaint lines of Samuel Wesley, written in 1692, here occur to us:

"Beneath, a sleeping infant lies,
  To earth whose ashes lent,
More glorious shall hereafter rise,
  Though not more innocent.
When the archangel's trump shall blow,
  And souls and bodies join,
What crowds will wish their lives below
  Had been as short as thine!"

Names of others appear who had a longer lease of life, but were still young when cut down as "flowers of the field;" James, son of Abraham Malam, gas-manager, aged 21, over whose narrow bed rises a stately pedestal with cross; three members of one family, Joseph Anderson, died at New Orleans, aged 20, Thomas Jardine Anderson, died at sea, aged 21, and Mary Anderson, died at Wellgreen, 1st November 1873, aged 38, are named upon one neat headstone; another rises in memory of Robertina Thomson, and of her father, William Thomson, once farmer in Comlongan Mains, her age being 27, and he dying 28th November 1870, aged 74.

Along the same mural border rises a handsome memorial in honour of John Costine, of Lochvale, formerly of Glensone, the marble tablet on which states that he died 15th August 1871, aged 57; also a very neat monument to William Coltart, a worthy medical gentleman, who, after spending his time as a practitioner in Templesowerby, Westmoreland, retired to Nithbank, in his native town, where he died 26th March 1874, aged 57; also, an extremely graceful one to Robert Primrose died at Kirkbog, Closeburn, 16th May 1876, aged 37, and John Hiddleston, his infant son; and another to Mary Isabella, daughter of the late John Moore, of Balnahow, St. Anne, Isle of Man, died at Dumfries, 8th March 1874, aged 43.

James Bertram, gardener, died 30th November 1848, aged 78, receives commemoration from a humble slab, bearing to have been erected by his youngest son, the Rev. James M'Gregor Bertram, "first Protestant Dissenting missionary of the Island of St. Helena, where the great exile Napoleon slept in death," the inscription also stating that the deceased "was one of the best of fathers, brought up his children in the fear of God, in the knowledge and love of His truth, and in sacred respect for His Holy Sabbaths."

CHAPTER XXIX.

THE NORTH WALL.

CLAIMING our first attention there rises on the north wall a graceful cross—the intersection of which displays a hand exquisitely carved—"In loving memory of John Wilson," who died 31st October 1858, aged 50; and of his wife Janet Beattie. Next to it appears a handsome monument in remembrance of Charlotte Duncan Carnan, wife of James Ramsey, plumber, died 25th March 1874, aged 43, and their youthful son, Alexander Stuart.

Over the spot at which we now stand, a memorial stone will soon arise, bearing the honoured name of Thomas Aird, journalist and poet. He died at his residence of Castlebank, Dumfries, 25th April 1876, aged 73. A fine obituary notice of Mr Aird appeared soon afterwards in the *Scotsman*, contributed by our accomplished townsman Mr. Thomas M'Kie, of the Scottish bar, from which we quote the following:

"Mr. Aird was born on the 28th of August 1802, and had thus entered on his seventy-fourth year. A native of the parish of Bowden, Roxburghshire, near to Melrose, under the shadow of the Eildon Hills, and almost within sight and hearing of the Tweed, the scenery of his native district, a very nursery of the muses, and the fame Scott was then earning through all the Border-land by the publication of the "Minstrelsy," may, not unnaturally, have stirred within him the first promptings of literary ambition. His parents belonged to that honest but humble rank of peasant life that has given so many men to the Scottish Church, and their desire was to train him for the ministry. With this object they gave him a sound, classical education at the parish schools of Bowden and Melrose, and afterwards sent him to the University of Edinburgh, where, we believe, he first made the acquaintance of a Dumfriesshire student, his life-long friend, Thomas Carlyle. Though Aird attended the Theological Classes, he never got licensed as a minister, not from any conscientious scruples—for he was a firm believer in the canons of the Church—but because in those days it was difficult for any youth, without influential friends, to get presented to a living. Besides, during all his college life, Aird had been secretly but sedulously courting the muses, reading Spenser, Homer, and other favourite poets, to the regret of his parents, and the neglect, we fear, of the heavier and graver divines. It got also whispered abroad among his friends that he had written a tragedy or drama, and, with the fate of Home's "Douglas" before their eyes, it was deemed hopeless to expect that the staid elders of any congregation would permit him to minister to them in holy things. Mistaken, unfortunate elders? Happy, indeed, would have been the people and parish that could have secured the services of so good a Christian gentleman as Thomas Aird. It was, however, destined otherwise. For want of better occupation he drifted into literature, and lived for several years on the fruits of his pen. He became a contributor to *Blackwood's Magazine*, and acted for some time as the editor of the *Edinburgh Weekly Journal*. In 1827, he published "Religious Characteristics," a series of essays written in elegant prose, breathing as tolerant yet reverential a spirit as if Jeremy Taylor had been their author. In 1835, he was appointed editor of the *Dumfries and Galloway Herald*, which caused him to quit Edinburgh and settle down in Dumfries, where he spent the rest of his life. On his retirement from the *Herald* in 1863, he was, out of respect for his character, entertained at a public dinner in Dumfries, and presented with a handsome testimonial of plate and books, subscribed for by men of all shades of political opinion. During his life as a journalist, he found time to write and publish various editions of his poems, and other works in prose, the most characteristic of which is the "Old Bachelor in the Old Scottish Village." The "Old Bachelor" was, doubtless, himself, for, unlike most poets, Aird lived and died in single blessedness. This was the more remarkable, as his tall, handsome, manly form, and a countenance which even in old age was beautiful, must in youth have charmed the heart of many a fair one. But, probably, his straitened means did not give him the chance to marry until he deemed it too late to change his mode of life. A similar cause, and a proud, independent, self-reliant spirit, kept him aloof from general society, which his culture and conversation would have adorned. Though a social, cheerful companion, and an apt scholar, he latterly became too much of a hermit, and lived, as he used to say, "much too much alone." No man more faithfully carried into practice Milton's maxim of "plain living and high thinking;" and we question if any other man of letters or poet before ever regulated his life with such prudent forethought, or so honourably contrived out of slender professional gains to be so generous to others, yet lay up for himself an ample provision against the approach and infirmities of age. This frugality, alike honourable to himself and the literary calling he represented, enabled him to withdraw from the editorship of the *Herald* at sixty, and enjoy a well-merited repose. His latter days were spent in peace and plenty musing on poetry and other things of this world, and preparing for the next. In the contemplation of the "silent magnanimity of nature and her God" above and around him, he found an all-sufficient society, and compensation for many a solitary hour. From his house, as he was wont to say, he could look down upon the shining river—that symbol of human life—and had only to turn his eyes towards the old-fashioned church and churchyard of Troqueer, on the other bank of the stream, to be constantly reminded there is only "such a gap between life and death."

It was when a comparatively young man that Mr. Aird produced "The Devil's Dream," the most powerful of all his poems; and it is on that piece and a few other small ones, such as "The Swallow" and "My Mother's Grave," that his reputation as a poet is chiefly based. While attending well to his editorial duties in Dumfries, he found leisure to produce several lengthened poems; "Othuriel," "The Captive of Fez," and "The Tragedy of Wold" being the chief. As collected in a handsome foolscap octavo volume, his works have passed through several editions; and while many contemporary productions which were at first hailed with enthusiasm have sunk out of sight, Mr. Aird's poems, which never created a sensation beyond a limited circle, seem to be growing in public favour, and will, we doubt not, help long to keep his memory green. Of few men could it be more emphatically said that his mind was his kingdom; and rarely has poetical genius been freer from aberrations of any kind, or a warm emotional nature been more happily controlled by sound judgment, than in the case of Mr. Aird. Never, even when acting as a journalist, did he take any prominent personal part in local movements; but down till the close of his career he manifested a lively interest in public affairs, municipal and general. He was a most effective speaker; it was only, however, on great occasions that the eloquence which flowed so readily from his pen found expression in spoken words. Thousands even at his own door never suspected that the poet was susceptible of being transmuted into the orator till five years ago the Scott Centenary, as celebrated at Dumfries, brought him out gushing, brilliant, and powerful, in the latter capacity; but then the subjects he had to discourse upon lay nearest his heart—Burns and Sir Walter—the only men living or dead, we believe, for whom he cherished a sentiment of hero-worship. And this leads us to remark that except where he was classical he was intensely national—a Scottish gentleman all over of the grand antique type, modified by modern polish and by cosmopolitan sympathies.

At Dumfries our deceased friend spent the summer and autumn of his existence; and though, after the lapse of two score years, his head had become white and his step had ceased to be elastic, his heart still remained young: like the "blythe new-comer" of his well-known song, his life had no wintry experience, unless it were the season in which he passed through the valley of shades, and even that was irradiated for him by light from above. "Bury me," said the dying bard, "in old St. Michael's, hallowed by the dust of Burns;" his desire being to rest, not among his kindred, but within the precincts of his adopted home, which he loved so much; and accordingly the renowned Cemetery had another illustrious tenant added to its roll on the 1st of May 1876.

On the preceding day (Sabbath) the Rev. John Paton, minister of St. Michael's, made a graceful reference to the deceased, in course of which he said—"For long years he has worshipped with this congregation; and though he had perhaps more of intellectual power and more of intellectual cultivation than any one among us there was none more child-like in his spirit of worship. He realised his position before his Holy Father, God. The faithful humility of the man in matters of religion should be an example to us all. On one of the last days on which I saw him as his minister, I happened to remark that it seemed impossible for me, comparatively so young and unlearned, to say anything which might be of use to him. He turned on me that peculiar illuminated look of his which came across his face only on rare occasions, and said "Speak on, and pray for me. I feel just like a little child before my God." How rare this child-like faith, how rare this devout humility! Thomas Aird all through his life was an example of self-reliance, but his self-reliance had with it no vanity nor self-assertion, which are the more common accompaniments of this mighty human life-power. He had a grand pride of an old and fast-disappearing type. He trusted God and believed in himself, and he strove to keep himself worthy of God, and to be what he believed a man should be. Determinedly, truthfully, quietly he chose his life-path, and faithfully walked in it to the end. A simpler or more amiable man never lived. He envied none, he hated none. His sympathy was great, that of a poet, for nature and mankind, while he ever strove after the more ennobling sympathy, that of human life that is with God through Jesus Christ. To-morrow we shall lay the gentle poet's dust in the Churchyard around this house of God, to lie amid the great majority till the resurrection. This thought recals some touching lines which long ago he wrote about a country churchyard, and which shew something of the pious spirit of the man:

'Here in their simple graves
The generations of the hamlet sleep;
All grassy simple, save that, here and there,
Love-planted flowerets deck the lowly sod.
Fond love, we scorn thee not: to bring the bud
Of living beauty from the ashes dear,
Be still thine artless emblematic war
Against the dull dishonour of the grave.
Bloom then, ye little flowers, and sweetly smell;
Draw up the heart's dust in your flushing hues
And odorous breath, and give it to the bee,
And give it to the air, circling to go
From life to life, through all that living flux
Of interchange which makes this wondrous world.
Go where it will, the dear dust is not lost.
Found it will be in its own place and form,
On that great day, the Resurrection Day.'

The poet's heart is still. The fire of his eye is quenched. His heart will lie unstrung through all the coming time. But his life is safe, we believe, with Christ in God, and his eye will behold the glory of the Kingdom, and his heart be strung with everlasting strings as he joins in the anthems of the blessed ones around the throne. A death like this leaves a blank. We miss a form well known and honoured. A man we loved is gone. But we need not sorrow; for the years were full and the time had come for God to take his own."

Mr. Alexander Anderson ("Surfaceman"), who was present at the funeral, has favoured us with the following tribute:

"I went behind the dust of Thomas Aird.
  The first of summer sunshine from above
Fell like an angel's smile upon the sward,
  In one mute benison of peace and love.

I heard behind me in the solemn throng
  The whispered tribute rising with the tread—
The reverential praises which belong
  To none upon the earth but the pure dead.

And he who walked in silence by my side,
  Hearing such tender words within his ear,
Turned—sorrow mingling with a lowly pride
  To catch the whispers that he held so dear.

A gentle sadness grew within his eye,
  And softer grew his kindly earnest voice,
As he half-whispered, 'It is well to die,
  For deaths like his should make the heart rejoice.

'I knew my dead friend in my earlier years;
  I knew his child-like heart so pure and brave;
And all his words rise up like sweetest tears,
  As we go onward to his waiting grave.'

O noblest of all earthly things to hear,
The heart's pure worship of the noble dead,
The worth and sacredness we all revere,
When soul meets soul to join in all that's said.

Dust unto dust. A wreath of flowers was on
The coffin, seeming to the saddened sight
The memory of the gentle poet, gone
To the white world within the other light.

We turned away, and left him to his sleep,
In the same churchyard where the greater dust
Of the grand ploughman sleeps ; but we can keep
His lesser memory, nor let it rust.

The love he had for quiet breathing things,
From which he took his natnre, still be ours.
The running brook and joyous bird, that sings
As if its melody drew up the flowers ;

The turning of a leaf, from whose slight sound
He caught an echo from the purer sphere,
And musically shaped it into bound,
That other kindred hearts might stop and hear ;

The sunshine from the sky that, falling on him,
Brought down pure thoughts which lay within his heart,
White as the white wings of the Seraphim,
Until they took new lustre from his art :

They did not leave him, but through all the years
Were with him, handmaids to his simple trust
In God and Christ, which nipped away those fears
That come upon us when we think of dust.

This may and can be ours. We give the grave
Its mortal dust. But all the pure in man,
Strong in its right to battle and be brave,
Claims his high song as part of God's own plan.

Peace to his dust. The young, fair summer keeps
Her holiday of flowers, and light, and song,
Making the earth all music ; but he sleeps,
Unheeding of the world that rolls along.

We walk within it like the blind who see
With inner vision, groping on our way,
Yearning for his serener faith ; while he
Walks with his God within the nightless day."

An honoured veteran of good birth and high connections is commemorated by a tasteful monument erected as a loving filial tribute by his daughters. It bears the following inscription :

"Sacred to the memory of Dr Henry Abergavenny Wootton ; departed this life at Dumfries, 26th July 1871 ; youngest son of Sir William Wootton, Kt., M.D., of Brook Street, Grosvenor Square, London ; and Mary, his wife, daughter of Colonel Charles White, and granddaughter of the Right Honourable Stephen Poyntz, and niece of the Right Honourable Margaret Georgiana Countess Spencer. Entering the navy as a midshipman, he served at the battle of Trafalgar. Transferring his services to the army, he was present at Badajos, Salamanca, and other battles of the Peninsular War, and at Waterloo; and received three medals and two clasps. Studying medicine he rejoined the army, and served for some years in India. In 1825 he married Eliza Easter Tracey, daughter of the Right Honourable James Tracey; and to their honoured and loved parents is this memorial raised by their only and surviving children, Eliza, Elionor, and Julia, A.D. 1872. As an officer brave, as a physician skilful and humane, a true Christian, and dutiful in all the relations of life. His latter end was peace."

A recumbent cross placed over the grave plot bears the hallowed words of the sixth beatitude, "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God."

In the course of Dr. Wootton's adventurous career he experienced not a few perilous incidents by flood and field: he was twice wounded, and after the victory of Trafalgar he was captured by the French, but managed to escape from prison by disguising himself in female attire. In addition to several good service badges, he received a Government reward for saving a besieged garrison by picking up a shell thrown in by the enemy and tossing it over a parapet before it got time to burst. Domestic affairs brought the worthy veteran to this town, where he died at a very advanced age.

From an artistic point of view the pediment of the next monument is worthy of special notice, on account of its finely carved female figure, which is recumbent and seemingly absorbed in sorrow, for the loss she laments, which is that of William M'Kelvie, a retired merchant, for some time a member of the Town Council, who was generally regretted when he died at his residence of Cornwall Mount, 13th May, 1871, aged 68.

Along the line we see a tasteful little headstone in memory of Mary Gladstone, nearly related to the ex-Prime Minister of that name, she having been the youngest daughter of Thomas Gladstone, of Leith, and relict of Dr. John Nimmo, died 26th January, 1871, aged 83; while near by a beautiful cruciform erection also of tiny proportions treasures the memory of Francis Geoghegan, a Dublin gentleman, died 2d November, 1869, aged 37.

To Agnes Munro, aged 6, daughter of John Wright, merchant, a neat monument is devoted. A stately Gothic edifice marks the burying ground of John Grierson, joiner, and indicates three blanks in his family circle, Agnes died at 12, Jessie Craig at 4, and Mary M'Kay at 10, his youthful children, being named in the inscription. On another imposing structure we find the name of Patrick Maxwell Johnstone, farmer, Bankhead, died 27th October, 1867, aged 41.

The finest of all the erections which give a florid aspect to the north wall, commemorates Thomas D. Currie of Clerkhill, died 21st July, 1868, aged 59. It consists of a graceful Ionic Cross, springing from a cluster of pillars, with a gradually expanding basis to rest upon. The material used is granite with varying shades of light brown and grey, which add to beauty of outline the attraction of harmonious colour. The capitals are of white marble ; and a fine mask of Faith of the same substance ornaments the base. The structure is a noble memento of a respected citizen, who besides achieving great success in business, played a distinguished part in our municipal affairs. Under his adventurous and skilful management a small currying trade begun by him in 1837, acquired such colossal proportions that it had few superiors north of the Border, and took within its range the best markets of the south, including London, Liverpool, Manchester, Birmingham, Newcastle, and Leeds, in all of which its proprietor was well-known and equally well esteemed for his integrity, affability, and general character, as a manufacturer and merchant. For many years he was an efficient member of the Town Council, and his services there, and to other local trusts, were recognised by his elevation to the magisterial bench in 1852, the duties of his bailieship being discharged by him with the utmost credit. Mr. Currie was warm-hearted and liberal-minded, giving of his substance freely to relieve the distressed, or promote the well-being of his fellow-creatures, morally and socially. The monument to him is flanked by two miniature erections of the same type, one of which bears the name of his only son, who died when seven months old, and was called Thomas Fergusson, after his mother's brother, Provost T. F. Smith.

To the memory of an industrious and enterprising nurseryman, William Kennedy, the next monument is devoted. He was brother of the late Provost Kennedy, who lies in a different section of the same ground, and died at Stoop, 14th August, 1867, aged 71. An infant child, William, and four other members of his family are also named in the inscription : Helen, died 30th April 1866, aged 40 ; George, died 12th May 1868, aged 41 ; Elizabeth, died 2d October 1871, aged 36 ; and William, died 25th February 1875, aged 37.

A good man and devoted minister, Dr. James Fraser, receives commemoration from a cross of bold Runic design, with rich details, the whole finely executed. A thorn-crowned Head carved on the intersection, with the words "He was wounded for our transgressions," represents "The Man of Sorrows;" and "The Spirit of Theology" is personified by a full-length figure at the base. The inscription is as follows :—

"Sacred to the memory of the Rev. James Fraser, D.D., minister of St. Michael's Church, and parish of Dumfries. He died on the 31st July 1867, aged 41 years, Dr. Fraser was pastor here for only six months. His people had not time to know him fully; yet were they impressed with the conviction that the eminent scholarship, pulpit eloquence, and general parochial usefulness which had been so well proved in St. Clement's, Aberdeen, and St. John's, Glasgow, would have made him equally a blessing to this place had his life been spared ; and by all was his premature death lamented. Members of the congregation of St. John's, Glasgow, cordially unite with Dr. Fraser's Dumfries friends in raising this stone to his memory."

Of Thomas Wallace, who was long at the head of a large business here as a skinner, we read on the next memorial—a handsome one of headstone shape. He died 17th February 1866, aged 55 : his wife, Jane Wield, and their infant son James, are included in the inscription. A neat stone of similar shape commemorates Thomas Hall, sometime innkeeper in the Coffee House High Street, died 5th February, 1865, aged 64 ; and Samuel Penrose Robarts, died 4th September, 1858, aged 41, who came from beyond the Border, and was host of the King's Arms for a few years, finds here no unkindly resting-place, though not laid among kindred dust.

Still proceeding in the same direction, we notice a tasteful monument, with floriated pediment, commemorating two brothers, respected members of the legal profession, Robert M'Lellan died 16th April 1864, aged 65, and John M'Lellan, died at Annan 1st February 1865, aged 54.

Three or four monuments along the wall remind us of those that lend dignity and grace to the Southern Walk of the Old Ground, one of them being to Douglas Cavan, a retired West India merchant, died at Nithbank 27th February 1852, aged 74; another marks where lie two young children of James Dickson, merchant, Ellen and Francis. A neat smaller stone bears upon its scrolled tablet the name of Joseph Turner, coffee planter in Ceylon, where he also acted as agent for Lord Elphinstone, his death taking place 20th July 1858, aged 42.

Another of the dignified and imposing edifices referred to bears the name of a much respected citizen, William Goldie, long the efficient agent of the Commercial Bank, Dumfries. He died 20th March 1858, aged 67; it commemorates also Janet, his wife, and six of their children, most of whom with the adventurous spirit which characterises many of our youths, went to push their fortunes abroad: one of them, James, died at Madeira 24th February 1844, aged 22; another, William, perished prematurely, drowned at the age of 20 when bathing by India's coral strand, 6th October 1848; a third, Captain Robert Goldie, died in the same distant region at Dapoolie 24th June, 1859, aged 34; a fourth, Alexander, found a grave at Port Elizabeth, South Africa, where he died 12th May 1863, aged 31; a fifth, John, dying at Troqueer Holm in our own neighbourhood, 26th May, 1859, aged 32: their names are preserved in the inscription, also that of a sister, Janet, who died in infancy. Mrs. Goldie, outliving them all, died at Nithmount, 10th May 1871, aged 76.

In an adjoining enclosure there are two headstones, one bearing the name of William Martin, died at Noblehill Cottage, 14th April 1860, aged 66, the other the names of four youthful persons, Thomas Hairstens Martin, died 15th March 1852, aged 19; Archibald Douglas Martin, died at Manilla 23d July 1860, aged 22; his twin brother, James Hairstens Martin, died 20th March 1863, aged 25; also Jean

Thorburn Martin, the young widow of Thomas R. Henderson, died 6th May, 1865, aged 24.

To the many gallant soldiers commemorated in the Cemetery Captain Joseph H. Butler has to be added, a tablet appearing to him at the corner of the wall. He was the third son of John Butler, of Kirby House, Berkshire, served in the 49th Madras Native Infantry, and died at Kirkmahoe 23rd August, 1859, aged 40.

THE WEST WALL.

Two other military men, both members of the distinguished M'Murdo family, have their names preserved on an imposing edifice at the beginning of the west wall on the north. It is of Gothic design, the pediment displaying an heraldic escutcheon with the motto "Omnia pro bono." Bryce Baird M'Murdo, one of the deceased, after acting as Colonel of the 8th Foot Regiment, spent his closing years at Mavis Grove, but as Colonel Commandant of the Dumfriesshire Yeomanry still giving the district the benefit of his military skill and experience. He died 11th September 1838, aged 65. The other, John James M'Murdo, served for a while in India as Lieutenant-Colonel of the 45th Madras Native Infantry; he officiated afterwards as Colonel Commandant of the Scottish Borderers, under whom that militia regiment began to acquire the high reputation, which has since been still further increased by his successor, Colonel Walker of Crawfordton. The deceased officer departed this life at Mavis Grove 16th December, 1867, aged 63; a fall from his horse, which occurred about two years previously, being, it is believed, the proximate cause of his demise.

Of a zealous rural missionary, whose delight it was to scatter the Gospel seed over a wide home-field, by highway or hillside, we find trace on a little headstone, humble and unpretentious like the good man it commemorates. The inscription upon it is in the following terms:

"Sacred to the memory of the Rev. David M. Gillespie, son of the late Rev. John Gillespie, minister of Kells, who died in Dumfries 4th Oct., 1859, aged 72 years. A man of unblemished character and liberal theological education, well-known in Dumfriesshire and Galloway, where at various stations he for upwards of 20 years preached the Gospel."

Two other monuments, much more imposing, are met with as we proceed along the wall: one in memory of James Mitchell, Bankhead of Dalswinton, died 10th March 1859, aged 51; another, erected by Robert M'Burnie, mason, to commemorate a young son and daughter, named respectively Charles Smith, aged 3, and Elizabeth, aged 2: the stone also bears his own name, with the intimation that he died at Georgetown, 29th October 1866, aged 35.

A neat little headstone stands near by in memory of Catherine Shiells, wife of James Stewart, governor of the Dumfries Prison, died 14th May 1863; also a small headstone to commemorate James Forrester, for many years in the Ordnance department of Halifax, Nova Scotia, died at Kingholm Cottage, 23d March 1859, aged 67; and another, erected by William Colquhoun, china merchant, in memory of his wife, Isabella Tedcastle, died 5th September 1866, aged 38, with two of their children, John, aged 3, and Jane, aged 6; further on is the burial ground of John Thomson, baker, where he lies with six of his children—Janet, Jane, Elizabeth, Margaret, William, and John—all of whom died young, the tasteful headstone over them bearing the following lines:

"Dear is the spot where Christians sleep,
And sweet the strains their spirits pour;
O why should we in anguish weep!
They are not dead, but gone before."

Other headstones commemorate the following: Anne, daughter of Richard Smith, Deacon of the Weavers, died 13th February 1874, aged 82; William Corrie, Maxwelltown, died 10th January 1862, aged 76, with Annie Dinwiddie, his spouse; Anne, aged 5, her infant twin sister, and another infant, children of David Anderson; Sarah Johnstone, died 17th December 1864, aged 58, with an infant granddaughter; Janet Turner, grocer, died 4th July 1866, aged 79.

Near the entrance there is a very handsome monument erected over the family ground of Mr. William Craig, solicitor; and next to it another not less graceful marks the property of another professional gentleman, Mr. John Symons. Both plots are tenanted by youthful sleepers hushed to rest before being called upon to face the trials of maturer life. The first monument, designed by Mr. Barbour, architect, displays a profusion of bold, rich, scroll work, in the Elizabethan style, with monogram, and commemorates William Craig, died in infancy, Margaret Laurie, died when 15, and Jessie Susan, when fully a year older. On the pediment of the other structure is seen a seated figure with palm branch, representing Faith, and below it the names Elizabeth Symons, who died at the age of 4, and of James Symons, died at the age of 10.

Faith as personified is the most suitable object that can be thought of for placing upon a tombstone. Campbell thus apostrophises Hope :

> "Daughter of Faith awake, arise, illume
> The dread unknown, the chaos of the tomb."

And Young, in his "Night Thoughts," says :

> "Faith builds a bridge across the gulf of death,
> To break the shock blind Nature cannot shun,
> And lands thought smoothly on the farther shore.
> Death's terror is the mountain Faith removes,
> That mountain-barrier between man and peace ;
> 'Tis Faith disarms destruction, and absolves
> From every clamorous charge the guilty tomb."

CHAPTER XXX.

THE INNER SECTIONS.

TWO parallel sections stretching from west to east, having a road between them, and crossed by narrower pathways, occupy the field. Proceeding along the various walks we glance at the headstone memorials nearly two hundred in number, which rise up on every side, some of them very graceful, many neat, though with a sprinkling of others sufficiently plain. The grave plots along the walls already visited, are for the most part neatly kept, but the same cannot be said of the interior sections. In only a small minority of instances does the turf that covers the dwelling places of the dead appear to be tended with reverential care by surviving relatives, and, generally speaking, the footpaths which ought to be nicely gravelled, are encroached upon by weeds and grass. Signs of neglect are only too visible, a circumstance which is all the more to be regretted, seeing that as the ground is regularly bisected, it could easily be kept in good order, and no sufficient reason exists why it should not wear the aspect of a beautiful necropolis. There is every likelihood, we understand, that a portion of the next surplus realised from the sale of layers will be applied by the Churchyard Managers towards this object; and meanwhile private individuals who have acquired a proprietary interest in the ground, and have an interest in it besides that is due to higher considerations, might do much in the way of placing it, and keeping it, in an improved condition.

The memorial stones of these inner sections tell of many great griefs in connection with tiny mounds whose innocent inmates have been torn away from the parental embrace. Of bitter tears shed, of keen anguish experienced, of fond hopes blighted, we can, when passing along, without the aid of fancy, find abundant trace; but if the agony of bereaved fathers and mothers be peculiarly intense, the consciousness that what is their temporary loss is everlasting gain to the departed little ones supplies a well-spring of consolation that can never run dry or get exhausted. The language of their hearts, even when the dark clouds of sorrow encompass them, can still be in keeping with the subjoined address :

Thou hast fled, little one, to a far-off land,
Unseen by mortal eye ;
To its borders brought by an angel band,
To take thy place 'mong the saintly band
Who around the throne of sapphire stand,
And glad hosannas cry.
Dread Fear, and sceptic Doubt say No !
And point to the pale cold clay below.

They need not point to the darksome tomb,
His earthly lot to tell ;
'Tis a spot to me of dread and doom ;
'Tis a ravening gulf of fearful gloom ;
It has prisoned my flower of beauty and bloom
The child I loved so well :
And yet I can say with a voice of cheer,
The son of my bosom sleeps not here.

For the spirit "that smiled in his sweet blue eye"
Can never oblivion see :
He has laid his clay-wrought raiment by,
For richer robes of a snow-white dye,
And sought a home in the cloudless sky
From dust and darkness free :
This is the lot of my lovely child.
The bud of my bosom so undefiled.

Then speak no more of the grave's decay,
As if my hopes were vain ;
And tell me not of the mouldering clay—
I have wept above it in sore dismay,
And been tempt'd in my bitterness to say,
Would God ! he might still remain
A little more in this low dim earth !
For my heart leapt so at his voice of mirth.

To think that the secret subtle chain,
Which held him captive here,
And to my bosom, was rent in twain,
Never on earth to be linked again !
Could I a parent unmoved remain ?
Yet still I say with cheer—
The earth to earth and the dust to dust,
This is my confidence and trust,
That the spirit I claimed in my fair-haired boy,
Still lives to be mine in the realms of joy.

Those of our readers who have known what it is to be as Rachel weeping for her children because they were not, will thank us perhaps for quoting a pregnant remark by the late Rev. Dr. Fletcher, before proceeding further with our obituary record: "Has it never struck you," he says, "the glorious change which is effected upon the mind of an infant, the moment its disembodied spirit is admitted among the holy and intelligent citizens of the New Jerusalem? I have often thought of it with surprise and delight. In one instant there is a greater influx, a greater communication of light into its glorified understanding than all the accumulated light which glowed with splendour for many years in the mind of the greatest philosopher who has added lustre to his country, to his species, to the world. All the experienced Christians and divines, whom that dear babe has left behind it, are as much behind it in the degree of their knowledge, and in the enlargement of their capacity as they are behind it in place. Heaven does not exceed this world more in its grandeur and glory than this glorified infant does the greatest, the wisest, and the best of human beings living in this vale of tears."

"Of such is the kingdom of Heaven;" John Boyd, an infant, and Robert, aged 3 years, sons of John Kirkpatrick; Isabella Brown, aged 4, daughter of Peter Murphie, flesher; Isabella, an infant, and William, aged 3, children of Edward Kerr, flesher; Sarah Louise, aged 4, daughter of Robert Smith; Janet and Mary Douglas, infant children, whose parents are not named; John, aged 4, son of John Brown, engine-driver; Charles John, aged 4, son of John Thurrot, Ladyfield; Jessie Ann Swan, aged 3, daughter of James Beck, Bush of Craigs; Margaret, aged 3, daughter of William Millar, coachbuilder; Mary, aged 11, with three infants, the offspring of William Reid; Donald, aged 2, son of John Mitchell, baker, Annan; Isabella, infant daughter of William M'George; Robert, aged 4, son of John Hannah, gardener; Joseph and John, each 3 years old, children of Joseph Wallace, watchmaker; George Dickson and Janet Alice, infants, and Mary Janet, her twin sister, aged 4, issue of George Rae; Jessie Hibbs, aged 10, and her infant twin sister, Rachel; James, infant son of Alexander M'Leod, formerly spirit-merchant; Christina, infant daughter of John Cradock, flesher; William Crosbie, infant son of Robert Hamilton, Castlebank; Isabella Scott, infant, and Robert Crozier, aged 3, children of John Dobson, Kingholm Quay; Janet, infant daughter of John H. Kirkpatrick; Annie Callander, an infant, and her sister Grace, 4 years old; Catherine Aitken, an infant, Thomas, aged 2, Elizabeth Aitkin, 4, and Andrew Aitkin, age not stated, children of James Boyes, restaurant-keeper, and formerly boatswain of the *Great Eastern;* John, aged 10, who "fell asleep in Jesus," son of John Davidson; Margaret Annie, died "in her second year," daughter of John Dickson, jeweller; Thomas Symington, an infant, and Margaret, nearly 2 years old, children of Thomas Symington Macaulay, Nithsdale Mills; Jessie Crocket, aged 2, Mary Niven, 1, Robert Niven, 1, Mary Niven, an infant, Robert, 2, children of Robert Niven M'Kie, clothier; Mary Swan, aged 2, daughter of John Thompson, Georgetown; John Walker Dalziel, an infant, Caroline Cassendria M'Veigh Dalziel, aged 3, Jane Dalziel, aged 9, and Jeanie, age not given, daughter of John Walker, boot and shoe maker; John M., an infant, and Bella B., aged 7, children of John Scott, engineer, Kingholm Mills; Thomas Albert, infant son of John P. Sloan; and Frank Stanley, Mass., an infant, to whose memory a pretty little cruciform structure is devoted.

Boys and girls of maturer age are also here interred, some of them side by side with young children of the same family circle; Janet, aged 13 years, daughter of Charles Lennon, Eastfield Cottage; William Lewis, aged 14, with his infant brother Walter; William, aged 13, son of James M'Callum, engine-driver; Janet, aged 16, daughter of Alexander Kirkpatrick; Margaret, aged 17, daughter of William Shannon; James, aged 2, Mather 5, David 17, sons of James Boyd; Richard Allen, his brothers Robert and William, each aged 2, a second William who had a few months longer term of life, with two other members of the household, Jessie aged 7, and James, cut off at 18 when on the verge of manhood.

Of other young persons older than the oldest of the foregoing we also find memorials—one of them recording the loss at sea near Cape Horn, of James, son of William Hastings, Nithbank, 12th June 1869, aged 19, his sister

Maryann died when under 2 years, being also named in the record; on a neat headstone in a well kept compartment we read of Albert, " the beloved son of James Gloag, saddler, who fell asleep in Jesus 7th August 1873, aged 24," also James B. Anderson, another son, who died in infancy.

Since the Education Society of Dumfries and Maxwelltown was formed nearly thirty years ago, it has been the means of rescuing hundreds of little wandering children from a career of ignorance, want, and probable infamy; and the Society, while tenderly caring for them in life, provides a resting place in the grave for such of them as die when still young. Twelve of these poor little boys and girls no longer needing help nor yet pity, lie buried in company beside a tasteful monument whose tablets tell their names and ages—the roll extending from 1864 till 1875.

Numerous wedded pairs, with or without their offspring, and in some instances whole households lie here interred: Henry Boyd, mason, Trohoughton, died 3d June 1857, aged 53, Mary Wilson, his spouse, with their infant daughter, the monument to them recording also the fate of their son John, who died in South Africa, 19th March 1861, aged 33; Matthew Foster, Kingholm Mills, died at Galashields, 23d November, 1873, aged 73, with Sarah Low, his wife; Louis, son of John Foster, aged 3, and Sarah Louise, daughter of Robert Smith, aged 4; James Gibson, coachbuilder, died 15th June 1860, aged 26, with Isabella Williamson, his wife, and their daughter Janet, aged 7; John Laurie, who kept the Grey Horse Tavern, Friars' Vennel, which before its removal included part of the old Greyfriars' Monastery, died 31st March 1858, aged 78, with Elizabeth Waugh, his spouse; William M'Kenzie died 4th February 1859, aged 28, with Euphemia Campbell, his wife, and three of their infant progeny; James M'Kenzie, died 14th May 1873, aged 51, with his "beloved wife," Isabella Baillie; John Turner died in April 1847, aged 56, with Mary Canning, his spouse, their son William, died in India, 1853, aged 37, another son, John, died 18th June, 1872, aged 33, their daughter, Emma, wife of Robert Nicholson, mason, died 7th June, 1863, aged 31, and their granddaughter Jane Hannay Neisham; Robert Kerr, died 6th August 1871, aged 64, with Janet M'Keur, his wife, and their daughter, Barbara, aged 19; David Blaylock, died 25th July 1857, aged 75, with Margaret Wilson, his spouse, their son James, died at 10, and daughter Helen Armstrong, died 8th March, 1869, aged 36: Mr. Blaylock, though commemorated on a family stone in the north section, lies in the Old Ground; he will be remembered by many as a decent intelligent man, who was for a lengthened period precentor and latterly beadle in Buccleuch Street United Presbyterian Church.

John Raleigh, Railway employé, died 2d January 1871, aged 72, with Mary Wilson Herries, his spouse; John Anderson died at Locharbriggs, 11th August 1873, aged 25, with Jane Murray, his wife, and their infant child; John Pauling died 9th December 1864, aged 64, with Isabella M'Adam, his wife; Thomas Harkness, died 20th April 1853, aged 69, "a sincere Christian and an honest man, and much respected by all who knew him," Mary Young, his wife, and their son, Thomas, died at Buenos Ayres, 20th May 1863, aged 44; Thomas Clark, died at Ramsay Place, 10th February 1864, aged 39, with Jane Dargavel, his wife; Francis Trainer, died 19th May 1870, aged 33, with Agnes Wilson, his wife, and their son, William John, aged 3; Herbertson M'Lellan, died 20th April 1870, aged 55, with Isabella Hamilton, his wife, and their children, Isabella aged 13, Margaret 19, and James 24; John Wainwright, died in March 1850, aged 56, "a just and good man," with Jane Corson, his wife, and their son John, died at Preston, aged 19; Alexander Hume, mason, died 19th March 1876, aged 45, with Agnes Matheson, his wife; Alexander Shaw, confectioner, died 19th July, 1875, aged 63, with his wife Elizabeth Weir, their children Barbara, aged 5, and other four, all of whom when in the fair noon of life were swept away by consumption within a period of little more than nine months, Catherine dying 6th April 1870, aged 33, Elizabeth Weir, 26th May 1870, aged also 33, Mary, 17th November 1870, aged 28, and William, 10th January 1871, aged 23; Andrew M'Conochie, mariner, died 25th June 1869, aged 67, with Janet Johnston, his spouse, and their offspring Isabella an infant, Annie Wallace, aged 23, David, aged 33, and John, died in St. Petersburg, Va., 27th June, 1862, aged 32; the neat headstone which commemorates this family being neighboured by one of similar shape devoted to Agnes, another daughter of Andrew M'Conochie, and wife of Andrew Baird, schoolmaster, with two of their infant children, Andrew and Margaret: Mrs. Baird died 4th January 1870, aged 36.

Fronting the east walk stands a handsome headstone, on the scrolled panel of which appears the name of Robert H. Coltart, a highly respected painter and glazier, and who as a member of the Town Council took a creditable part in the management of Burgh affairs. He was brother of Dr. W. Coltart, whose monument on the south wall has already been described. Mr. Coltart died 22d February 1867, aged 54. Beside him lie his wife, Elizabeth H. Sanderson, a native of Mary-lebone, London, and two of their infant children. An adjacent stone commemorates James Brown, compositor, died 17th October 1855, aged 30, and John Smith, merchant, died 26th January 1867, aged 36, both of them brothers-in-law to R. and W. Coltart, also two of Mr. Brown's youthful children. Eastward a little lies another house painter, William M'Keachie, who was besides a local artist, of no mean repute, and a worthy man: he died 16th March, 1863, aged 42, his neat headstone bearing in remembrance also his wife Jane Hutton and their children, Agnes aged 3, Andrew 4, and Jessie 16.

Rarely are we reminded in the New Ground of Old Dumfries, as it flourished when the Seven Trades together with the Merchants bore sway over the Burgh; but the headstone of Thomas Irving, a respected Crispinite, which rises in the south section, tells of the time when the Crafts were yet in all their glory. He died 3d February 1855, aged 74; the stone also commemorates his wife, Sarah M'Lellan, sister of George, James, and Robert M'Lellan, whose names appear on other monuments in the Cemetery, died 5th November 1864, at the advanced age of 80; Margaret, their daughter, died 10th June 1844, aged 25; and John, their son, died at Edinburgh, 22d September 1862, aged 46. As shown in a preceding chapter, the boot and shoe trade, for which Dumfries has long been noted, has usually numbered many Irvings among its members; and at present the cordwainers of the Modern Athens include two of the name George and James, each at the head of a thriving establishment, and both sons of Thomas Irving.

To James Carson, a worthy master mariner, his wife Elspeth Cowan, and five of their offspring, a neat memorial stone is devoted; but the children lie scattered far away from the quiet haven of St. Michael's; James died at Liverpool, aged 3, Robert at Nova Scotia, aged 22, John in Calcutta, at the same age, and James in Baltimore, aged 21: an infant child William is included in the inscription; also a grown-up daughter, Mary Brown, wife of Thomas Graham, cabinet maker, died 14th May 1863, aged 33, with their infant child, Elizabeth Ann, a granddaughter of Captain Carson.

Monuments of wives, some of them also mothers, appear as follows: Mary Riddick, wife of James Boyd, Wellgreen, died 3d March 1860, aged 56, with Catherine, her daughter, aged 25; Janet Gillespie, wife of the late John Johnston, died 30th July 1861, aged 64, with her grandchild Thomas F. Smith, infant son of John Johnston, perfumer; Catherine Hyslop. wife of William M'Burnie, died 1st September 1862, aged 52, with Ann, their daughter, wife of Peter Gordon, died 31st May 1863, aged 31; Janet Morrison, wife of William Wilson, died at Shawfield, 27th January 1870, aged 74; Janet Kevand, wife of Daniel Morrison, died 28th May 1869, aged 53; Jane Carlyle, wife of David Dickson, mason, Gasstown, died 3d September, 1875, aged 49; Elizabeth Grierson, wife of William Johnston, died at Craig-Math, Dalbeattie, 8th November, 1871, aged 22; Lorilla Wilkin, a native of the United States, wife of James Wilkin, late of Kirkblain, died 20th October, 1870, aged 58; Isabella M'Culloch, wife of William M'George, died 3d September, 1871, aged 24; Mary Hawthorn, died 11th January, 1858, aged 68, with two infant children of her son John M'Queen, watchmaker; Mary Thomson, relict of Robert Beattie, builder, died 11th May 1872, aged 81; Nicholas Kerr, wife of John Douglas, gardener, Laurelmount, died 26th October, 1872, aged 38; Hannah Crosbie, wife of James M'Intosh, died 7th October, 1853, aged 38, with Wilhelmina, their daughter; Jane Sawyers, wife of Josiah Ferguson, died 21st November, 1861, aged 26, the monument in this case being a granite one, cross-surmounted; Elizabeth Pagan, wife of John Coupland, shoemaker, died 14th July 1874, aged 34, with John, their infant son; Mary M'Cartney, wife of Samuel Morell, died 30th January 1864, aged 59; Mary Halliday, wife of Andrew Wright, died at Place of Craigs, 2d January 1870, aged 53, with John M'Dougall, their grandson, aged 3; Jane Hope, widow of George Carruthers, clockmaker, Langholm, died 30th September 1867, aged 68; Harriet M'Millan, wife of Charles M'Gowan, died at Lochvale, 20th December 1867, aged 32, with William, their son, aged 7; Mary Pennycook, wife of Thomas Shade, died 15th August 1874, aged 33, with their children, Elizabeth Whatmore aged 3, Thomas aged 6, and Ralph cut off in infancy; Catherine Renwick, died at Noblehill, 3d November 1875, aged 44, wife of James Harding, engine-driver, with their children Catherine, aged 12, and a second Catherine, aged 3; Isabella Kennedy, wife of James Bull, carrier, died 27th March 1866, aged 57; Ann Slack, "the beloved wife" of John Armstrong, currier, died 9th July 1867, aged 47, with William and Jessie, their infant offspring; Margaret M'Murray Newall, wife of Daniel Richardson, died at Noblehill, 10th September 1871, aged 34, with Annie, their infant child; Margaret Glendinning, wife of Thomas Smith, coach painter, died 7th March 1871, aged 42, with John, their infant child; Jane Dunbar Clark, wife of the worthy parochial inspector of Dumfries, John Dinwoodie, died 27th October 1862, aged 50, with their son William, aged 3; Mary Ann Smith, wife of William Beattie, died 10th May 1873, aged 33; Janet Paterson, "the affectionate wife" of Thomas Haining, died at Glencaple, 20th June 1870, aged 34; Catherine Graham, who will be remembered by many visitors at the Crichton Institution as the kindly and intelligent wife of the former head gardener John Fergusson: her death took place 14th August 1870, aged 67.

Memorials abound in these inner sections which recal Blair's affecting picture :—

"The new-made widow too, I've sometimes spied,
Sad sight! slow moving o'er the prostrate dead;
Listless she crawls along in doleful black,
While bursts of sorrow gush from either eye
Fast falling from her now untasted cheek.
Prone on the lonely grave of the dear man
She drops; while busy meddling memory
In barbarous succession musters up
The past endearments of their softer hours
Tenacious of the theme."

The list of husbands deceased, together with, in many instances, their departed children, comprises the following: Joseph Edgar, mason, who is commemorated by a neat monument near the entrance, died 21st May 1873, aged 42, with Robert, his infant son; James Davidson, long a head attendant in the Crichton Institution, born at Carmyle, Forfarshire, died at Cherrytrees 9th July 1870, aged 49, Alfred Richard, his adopted son, aged 2 years, being also named in the inscription; Reuben Webster, cabinet maker, Eastfield, died 19th February 1871, aged 37, with his daughter Reubena Gertrude, aged 3, and his nephew Ferdinand Schonberg, died in infancy; Alexander Bremner, died 22d July 1854, aged 30, and two infant children—the stone erected by the widowed mother, Ann Edgar; James Adam, carver and gilder, died in Edinburgh 18th December 1848, aged 27—the monument erected by his widow "Mrs. Jemima Mason or Adam," and commemorating also their son, James Alexander Hannay, aged 3, and an infant daughter; Robert Robinson, died 13th November 1869, aged 27, with two youthful children—the stone erected by their mother, Mary Clark; Robert Kirkpatrick, framesmith, died 13th February, 1866, aged 61, with his offspring, Thomas, died at 16, two infants, and another infant, daughter of his son James Kirkpatrick; William Copland, carter, died 9th April 1857, aged 62, with Catherine, his daughter, died at 29; Robert M'Cririe, tailor, died 30th March 1856, aged 86, with Elizabeth, his daughter, died at 24; Andrew Lockerbie, died 26th December 1866, aged 59, with Agnes, his daughter, died at 12; James Affleck, Cairn of Craigs, died at Craigs Lodge, 7th September, 1874, aged 75, with his children James, aged 22, and Elizabeth died in infancy ; John Dalling, engine driver, died at Greenbrae, 11th April 1871, aged 38, with two of his infant offspring; James Townsend, shoemaker, died 28th October 1871, aged 47, with Margaret Kay, his mother-in-law, died 11th September 1871, aged 68 ; George Craik, died 24th February, 1874, aged 32, with Barbara, his daughter, aged 6; James Fisher, carrier, died 28th September 1861, aged 50, with Mary Ann, his daughter, aged 9 ; Samuel Nodwell, died 25th October 1868, aged 58, the monument having been erected by his son James Nodwell, spirit merchant, whose daughter Margaret, aged 4, is also named in the inscription ; Charles Forrest, died 29th January 1871, aged 70, with his son Charles, died at Ayr, aged 30 ; Donald Crosbie, mason, died 9th January 1855, with no fewer than eight children, though he died at the early age of 39, these consisting of six infants, Robert, who lived to be 20, and John to be 28 ; Thomas Anderson, some time draper, afterwards auctioneer, died 5th March 1871, aged 33, with his son Thomas, aged 2.

The prevailing prose literature of the New Ground is relieved occasionally by poetical epitaphs, as follow :

Simon Graham Slater, merchant, who died 7th August 1869, aged 32, is repressnted as saying to his children :

"Oh here I'm still, my children dear,
When you my tomb pass by,
Think on that dark and silent grave,
Where shortly you must lie."

The subjoined verse from a well-known hymn is quoted on a headstone which commemorates John Preston :

"The hour of my departure's come,
I hear the voice that calls me home.
At last O Lord ! let trouble cease,
And let thy servant die in peace."

Mr. Preston died 26th May 1872, aged 43.

Comforting assurance is expressed on a neat headstone raised over Christian, eldest daughter of R. Hughs, butler—"A lily gathered at Newton, Kirkpatrick-Fleming, 16th May 1870" :

"Dead? Oh no, she is not dead,
But sleeping for a season here,
Till fairer sun a better world shall gild,
Then ransomed from the grave shall spring my child."

An address of warning rather than of consolation, appears on a similar stone, tributary to Jemima, the child daughter of James Templeton, and to William his son, the latter of whom died 2nd October 1872, aged 18.

"Death little warning to me gave,
But quickly called me to my grave;
O haste to Christ, make no delay,
For no one knows his dying day."

In October 1874, Walter Eliot, a young man belonging to one of the travelling shows by which the Rood Fair of that year was attended sickened and died, and having been buried in the Cemetery, a neat tombstone was erected by "George Biddall, showman," to mark the spot, and which bears the subjoined appeal:

"Traveller as you pass by,
As you are now, so once was I!
As I am now so you must be,
Prepare in time to follow me."

To this verse Mr. Biddall has added a well-turned compliment to the youthful sleeper:

"From pain and care he has come to rest,
Regretted most by those who knew him best."

A memorial erected by William Thomson, of the Crichton Institution, "in remembrance of his beloved wife," Mary Ann Dalby, died at Cherrytrees, 15th December 1869, aged 44, bears below her name the following stanza:

"Freed from a life of trial here,
Now peaceful is her rest.
Her soul enjoys a purer sphere,
Rejoicing with the blest."

Two of their children are also mentioned in the inscription, Margaret Ann, aged 3, and Bella Jane, died in infancy.

To the memory of Ann Mann, "the beloved wife" of Alexander Brown, mason, died 15th October 1870, aged 66, another headstone is devoted, which bears the following stanza:

"No more to sigh, no more to weep,
The faithful dead in Jesus sleep;
Unfading let their memory bloom
Where rest their bodies in the tomb."

On the pedestal of a neighbouring stone, a figure is seen like "Niobe all tears," as if weeping for the "loved and lost" who are named below: John Cumming, carpenter, died at Shenley Hill, Herts, 18th September 1854, aged 35; Douglas Macqueen Cumming, law clerk, his son, died at Dumfries, 12th April 1873, aged 22; with Marion, Robert, and John, who were cut off in childhood. But lines are added for the consolation of the mourner:

"Mourn not for those whom God has blest,
And taken to their heavenly rest;
Freed from all sorrow, grief, and pain,
Our loss is their eternal gain."

"I am weary of my crying, my throat is dried; mine eyes fail while I wait for my God." This plaint of the Royal Psalmist appears on a stone commemorating John Alexander, born in Moffat, aged 6, the son of Francis Lauder.

By a railway collision, at Dalbeattie, 20th June, 1874, Thomas Gunyon, engine driver, a steady, respectable man, was so severely injured that he died the third day afterwards, aged 36, and was buried in the New Ground. The monument to his memory represents him as saying,

"Grieve not for me, my soul has run,
The Lord has called, His will be done,
When Christ appears I shall arise,
Unto that life that never dies."

On other monuments we find the following names: George Dickie, aged 27, died 27th July, 1862, aged 44; James Aiken, died 8th July 1863, aged 47; Janet, daughter of Andrew Sturgeon, Preston Mill, Kirkbean, died 11th May 1860, aged 60, Agnes, another daughter, died in Maxwelltown, 17th February 1873, aged 74, and John Williamson, a youth of 16, son of William Sturgeon, Dumfries; John Jardine Stewart, Kingholm Quay, died 21st June 1871, aged 40; Gilbert Maxwell, died 1st September 1873, aged 78; Matilda Grierson, died 28th March 1874, aged 35; Margaret Broadfoot, daughter of William Raphels, aged 20, with Mary Margaret Clark, his infant granddaughter; Thomas Stevenson, clerk, died 2d May 1870, aged 26, and Mary Stevenson, died in infancy; Robert Boe, moulder, died 5th March, 1869, aged 46; William Wield, Kingholm Quay, died 6th September 1871, aged 72, with David, grandson of John M'Lean, mariner, aged 4; Janet, infant daughter of David M'Lean, mariner; John Tait, merchant, died 31st July 1869, aged 29; Agnes Tait, died 12th June 1870, aged 31; and Agnes, infant child of Joseph Gracie; Thomas Halliday, died 4th August 1857, aged 57; Agnes Lawson, died 2d June 1871, aged 62, and Eliza Lawson, died 2d February 1873, aged 71; Archibald Carson, died 2d February 1872, aged 77; James Armstrong, Rigghead, died 30th April 1872, aged 57; George M'Culloch, died 9th April 1872, aged 36, the monument to him having been erected by his brothers "J. and P. M'Culloch;" Alexander Murphie, baker, died 17th April 1868, aged 24; William Vickers, died 7th December 1872, aged 23; Margaret Gillespie, died at Hightown of Craigs, 22d September 1872, aged 21: James Cook, watchmaker, died 2d January 1874, aged 62; Peter Coulter, died at Maryfield, 19th November 1873, aged 41; Nevin M'Holme, died at Maryholm, 20th November 1873, aged 63; Mary Williamson, died 8th February 1860, aged 70; Ellen Low, died 2d February 1876, aged 66; George Irving, died at Gasstown 1st March 1875, aged 72; James Moffat, died 18th March 1863, aged 71; Janet Moffat, died 4th August 1853, aged 55; John Murray, of Workington, saddler, died 6th November 1854, aged 41; Robert M'Lean, Georgetown of Craigs, died 24th October 1867, aged 47; William Roberts, died 5th January 1873, aged 35; Peter Dow, parochial schoolmaster, Lochmaben, died 1st June 1859, aged 41; William Tait, formerly of Milligan and Tait's hosiery establishment, died 7th February 1859, aged 54; William, son of "Joseph Bates, Esq., of Springhall," Halifax," died at Greystone Cottage, 10th September 1867, age not recorded; John Dobie, mason, died 2d February 1867, aged 34, with Agnes Walker, died 29th May, 1869, aged 19; James Pringle, died 9th December 1871, aged 45; James Hamilton, died at Castledykes 1st May 1872, aged 33; Thomas Wilson, tanner, died 17th April 1870, aged 54; James Smith, died 25th September 1867, aged 37; Thomas W. King died 12th June 1872, aged 44, the memorial in this case being a neat miniature pyramid.

Waiting for the archangel's call lies William Inman, who for twenty years was bugler to the Scottish Borderers Militia, and died in the camp at Kingholm, 15th June 1874, aged 43. Other soldiers encamped not far off will rise at the sound of the same irresistible summons : John Davidson, of the 94th Regiment, in company with "his beloved wife" Jane Bell, his death occurring 13th October 1866, aged 62; Sergeant John Baxter, of the 75th Regiment, died 31st October 1874, aged 76, a child of 7 years, Isabella Murdoch, being billeted beside him; George Gaven, of the 26th or Cameronian Regiment, died in November 1852, aged 57; Sergeant Thomas Crichton, who died 18th July 1868, aged 56, the neat stone commemorating the latter having been erected by his widow, Agnes Carter.

Among the memorials in this portion of the Cemetery appear four, all tastefully executed, raised as special tributes from sorrowing survivors: one of them bears the name of Nicol Macintyre, examining officer of Her Majesty's Customs, died 14th April 1874, aged 42; another "erected by his fellow-workmen in affectionate remembrance of Joseph Antill, of Mountsorrel," died 28th January 1873, aged 21. Another set up by "a few friends" in memory of James M'Keachie, died 21st March 1870, aged 34, the name of his daughter Agnes, aged 5, being included in the inscription; the fourth "erected by the officers, attendants, and servants of the Crichton Institution, in memory of Anne Nabnae," died 21st January 1868, aged 19.

Near the centre of the ground rises its most elaborate monumental edifice to commemorate Thomas Kennedy, Provost of Dumfries. It is in the Eleanor style, which borrows its characteristics from the beautiful Gothic crosses which King Edward, 1st of England, set up at all the places where the body of his consort Queen Eleanor rested when on its way from Herdeby in Nottinghamshire to its tomb in Westminster Abbey. The design was supplied by Mr. John Starforth, Edinburgh, architect of two notable buildings in Dumfries, Greyfriars' Church, and the New Infirmary; and with its pointed arches and spirelets it resembles to some extent the upper part of the Waltham Cross, the richest of all the royal memorials that bear the name of Eleanor. Below, a canopy, formed by a junction of four arches, is seen an urn, not of the classical pattern but mediæval, so as to harmonise with the general plan of the structure; and beneath there are tablets, four in number, one on the west side being thus inscribed : "Thomas Kennedy, of Nithbank, nursery and seedsman, Provost of Dumfries from November 1846 to 1849 : born 2d September 1792; died 22d January 1867. Jean Pringle, his wife, born 26th November, 1792." On the north side appear the names of two children, sons of Alexander Tweedie Newbigging, and of Helen Kennedy (daughter of the Provost); "Thomas Kennedy Newbigging, born 23d August 1842, died 15th January 1847; Robert Newbigging, born 21st May, died 8th June 1847."

By dint of thrift, industry, and perseverance, Mr Kennedy converted a small business in the seed line, left him by his father, into one of the most prosperous concerns of its kind in the South of Scotland. Around the suburbs of Dumfries may be seen traces of his enterprise in the ninety acres or so of nursery ground into which his business has developed under its present proprietors, Messrs. Alexander T. Newbigging and Robert Cowan. As a token of the general respect entertained towards Mr. Kennedy, he was elected a member of the first reformed Town Council; and as a further indication of the same feeling, he was chosen chief magistrate in 1846. It was during his tenure of office that the Water Scheme, our greatest sanitary acquisition, first took a practical shape. During his latter years, when retired from more active pursuits, he tenanted a farm in Lochar Moss, where he gratified his love of rural life and his taste as an agricultural improver, by rendering waste acres almost as roseate and productive as the many fields which at an earlier period he had transformed into garden-land, or enriched with rare shrubs and flowers.

A handsome monument in the Italian style, designed by Mr. Starforth, marks the spot where rest James Martin, farrier, hi wife, and two of their sons. Mr. Martin, father of our excellent Town Clerk, was an intelligent, well-informed man: he died 11th February 1847, aged 58 years. His estimable widow, survived him twenty-nine years, her death occurring 22d August 1876. When full of promise their first-born son, James, was unfortunately drowned in the Nith while bathing, 16th August 1832, at the early age of 17. His name upon the inscription is followed by that of his brother, Robert Martin, solicitor, who died 15th May 1873, aged 42: accomplished and amiable, he was a general favourite.

As we have already seen, several members of the Knockgray family lie buried in the Old Ground, among others Lieutenant-General Sir Alexander Clark Kennedy, and it is in the New Ground that the memento of his eldest son, John, next falls to be noticed. Born at Dumfries, the deceased gentleman entered the army at an early age, went through some hard service in China and the Punjaub when still quite a youth, and during his meridian strength won laurels and lost blood whilst leading Eyre's Brigade in the Crimean War. We find him next officiating as Quarter-Master General of Aldershot Camp, then obtaining a colonelcy in 1858, and afterwards made Colonel Commandant of the Military Train, an office demanding engineering skill and power of physical endurance not less than moral bravery, which requisites he in an eminent degree possessed. When the memorable seizure of the Trent brought Britain and the United States to the brink of a deadly quarrel, he was appointed to superintend the defences of Canada. Peace having been reassured, Colonel Kennedy, with a laudable ambition, wished to add senatorial honours to those he had won in the tented field; and about the only time he experienced signal defeat anywhere, was when contesting the Dumfries Burghs with the late Mr. William Ewart in 1865. His candidature was conducted with characteristic courage and ability, even his keenest opponents being ready to acknowledge the courtesy, good humour, and manliness which were displayed by him throughout the contest. Outvoted but not crestfallen, he in the hour of defeat announced his resolution to break another spear for the membership of the Burghs whenever a prope opportunity should arise. The opening which he looked for never came. There was no more electoral campaigning in store for him. After the lapse of other two years, the War Office authorities wanted an officer to take charge of the Transport Service required for their Abyssinian Expedition. For this exactive piece of service they selected Colonel Kennedy, thus paying a high tribute to his talents, though, as it unhappily turned out, the onerous commission given to him was fraught with a fatal issue. Even his robust constitution could not bear up against the excessive labour, mental and bodily, which devolved upon him in an unhealthy climate; and prostrated with fatigue and sickness, he died at Alexandria, in Egypt, the expedition thus losing one of its leading supports, society a bright ornament, and Scotland one of her bravest sons.

His mortal remains were brought from the far-away Land of Nile to be laid in the soil of his nativity, the place where they repose being marked by a massive slab of Cornish granite, on which lies a recumbent cross of the same material. The inscription is in the following terms:

"To the memory of Colonel John Clark Kennedy, C.B., Colonel Commandant Royal Military Train, of Knockgray, in the Stewartry of Kirkcudbright, eldest son of Lieut.-General Sir Alexander Kennedy Clark Kennedy, K C.B., K.H., of Knockgray, and Harriet Rebekah, his wife. Born 21st September, 1817; died 18th December, 1867, at Alexandria, while on special service in Egypt, and is buried here. Two sons and three daughters, with his sorrowing widow, mourn their irreparable loss. 'Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord, for they rest from their labours.'—Rev. xiv. 13."

Before leaving the sleeping-place of the departed hero, we think of Collins's beautiful ode:

"How sleep the brave, who sink to rest
By all their country's wishes blest?
When Spring, with dewy fingers cold,
Returns to deck their hallowed mould,
She there shall dress a sweeter sod
Than Fancy's feet have ever trod.

By fairy hands their knell is wrung,
By forms unseen their dirge is sung,
There Honour comes, a pilgrim gray,
To bless the turf that wraps their clay,
And Freedom shall awhile repair
To dwell a weeping hermit there!"

"I know that my Redeemer liveth :" these words appear on a large granite slab, expressing the realised assurance of the sleeper whom it commemorates—John Wesley Thomas, a devoted minister of the Connexion which was founded by the great divine whose name he bore. Mr. Thomas was a man of no ordinary attainments. He was a good scholar, and among other literary productions he published a translation of Dante, which possesses considerable merit. He was far past his prime when stationed as pastor of the Dumfries Wesleyans ; but even at threescore years and twelve he was able to preach with energy and acceptance. The inscription states that Mr. Thomas was born at Exeter, and died at Dumfries 7th February, 1872, in the 74th year of his age and the 50th of his ministry.

Dumfries has not produced many painters of high merit ; and hitherto we have only met with the name of one—William Kennedy—in our churchyard rambles. Another artist of true genius, but less known to fame, lies interred near the north-west corner of the New Ground. Over his grave rises a graceful obelisk, bearing an intimation that it was "Erected by a few friends to the memory of John B. Maxwell, artist, Dumfries," died 22d October 1853, aged 40. The deceased was a native of Corsock, Kirkpatrick-Durham, and coming to this town as a portrait painter when comparatively young he soon obtained extensive patronage. His likenesses were so faithful, and in other respects so well executed, that they brought him more than local repute, and some of his pictures will bear comparison with those produced by acknowledged masters of the art. Without exaggeration we may say of Mr. Maxwell's portraits :

"Likeness is ever there ; but still the best,
Like proper thoughts in lofty language dressed :
Of various parts, a perfect whole was wrought :
His pictures think, and we divine their thought."

Occasionally, but rarely, his pencil was turned to other subjects besides "the human face divine." In "Oor Aggie," representing a comely damsel on culinary business bent, he displayed considerable originality and much constructive skill.

A few other stones merit special notice on account of their artistic excellence. One of these is in memory of Joseph Harkness died at Glencaple 24th April 1867, aged 39 ; and two infant children who died in India. From surroundings of rich carvings on the pediment, a figure of Faith looks through with hands extended bearing a scroll, on which are inscribed the appropriate words, "I know that my Redeemer liveth."

On a very graceful monument of white marble with a cruciform pinnacle, and tiny side pilasters of brown granite, we read the name of a worthy farmer, Thomas Haining, Hightown of Craigs, died 19th March 1873, aged 56.

An upright slab of gray granite with tasteful outline, and an oval pediment of white marble, on which two beautifully chiselled hands are clasped, has its effect further enhanced by a gilt inscription telling that the monument was erected by May Yorstoun to commemorate her husband Michael M'Chrystal, of Westfield, near Dumfries, who died 19th April 1872, aged 66.

Much fine taste is displayed in a monument erected by William Gladstone Scott, fish merchant, in memory of his wife Christian Noble Glendinning, died 28th November 1872, aged 33 ; and three of their offspring, William Gladstone and John Gladstone, who died in babyhood, and Edith Christina Razalina, who enjoyed but a few years' lease of life. Four finely-carved cherub's heads, winged, give a florid aspect to the pediment. The tablets bearing the names of the deceased are of white marble, three in number, which in their framework of red freestone have a beautiful effect.

A small cross, of beautiful proportions, with nimbus, rises in memory of James Dickson, "born in Edinburgh 2d November 1800, died at Dumfries 28th October 1873, much loved and deeply regretted."

William Johnstone, died at Nunholm, 2d February 1872, aged 67, is commemorated by a neat Grecian monument surmounted by a graceful urn, and enriched by a white marble tablet, which contrasts finely with the red sandstone of which the edifice is constructed. It is the workmanship of Mr. Thomas M'Meekan, Dumfries.

A large headstone-memorial, unique in colour and graceful in form, bears the name of John Grierson, of Muirside, Holywood, who died there 31st December 1874, aged 71. The material used is Aberdeen granite, of a light-brown hue, deepened and enriched by the burnishing to which it has been subjected. Some fine chased work is displayed on the pediment, to which the chisel, by removing the polished surface, has given a lighter tinge ; while a base of grey granite renders the monument increasingly picturesque.

One of the latest acquisitions to the ground is a very handsome obelisk, sacred to the memory of John Hyslop, a student at Glasgow University, cut down in opening manhood, when he was full of promise. He died at Peebles, 4th August 1875, aged 25. The figure of a human hand, cut in white marble, points significantly up to heaven from the apex of the edifice. On its base appears the following stanza :

"O think that all his pains are fled,
His toils and sorrows closed for ever ;
While He whose blood for man was shed
Has placed upon His servant's head
A crown that fadeth never."

Mr. Hyslop possessed great natural ability, and was an amiable as well as an accomplished young gentleman. He died of a lingering illness brought on, or aggravated, by over study. He was the son of Mr. John Hyslop, who has been in the service of the Caledonian Railway Company for more than a quarter of a century, and is now officiating as their agent at Peebles, where he is deservedly held in high esteem. The deceased student was the nephew of Mr. William Hyslop, of Stretton House, Church Stretton, Shropshire, whose name is so honourably associated with the treatment of the insane, and to whom the credit is due of having been the introducer of the non-restraint system into this country.

There are in the ground two if not more blank monuments which mark family layers, still wholly or for the most part untenanted ; one of these a handsome edifice on the north wall is the property of Mr. George Thomson, baker ; another which was recently set up near the centre of the yard, is a tall, graceful, obelisk, belonging to Mr. Lorimer, Nithbank.

CHAPTER XXXI.

ADDITIONS.

TWO very interesting old monuments were brought to light since the preceding sheets passed through the press. One erected near the entrance gate bears the following intimation : "Here lyes William Irving, merchant in Dumfries, who died the 25th December 1679, aged 35 years. Agnes Carlile, his spouse, who died ye 4th of Aprill 1708, aged 56 years. Here lyes John Irving, late Convener of the Seven Corporations of Dumfries, who depart——." The main inscription is left in this uncompleted state. An additional one states that the stone is the property of John Carson, junior ; while below there is a grotesque but well-executed device representing a skull, cross-bones, a sand-glass of a very antique pattern, together with a pair of grave-digging implements as supporters.

More old-fashioned still is the other venerable memento—a heavy slab having its face newly-revealed that had long been buried in the soil near the stone which commemorates John Allan and his wife Margaret Crosbie. The inscription is in raised characters arranged so as to form a border for the stone, and runs thus : "Here lyis Andrew Corsbie, marchant, who depairted the vi. Agust 1674, ætatis 77." A shield-like figure within the lettered selvage has the initials A. H. on one side, those of G. N. on the other, and the figure 4 in the centre, the whole forming an enigma which would be difficult to solve.

A slab of more modern date within the Gibson burial ground at the south-west corner was recently laid bare, which commemorates William Gibson, Deacon of the Fleshers, died 28th December, 1802, aged 53 ; Janet M'Michan, his spouse ; (the parents of John Gibson, Braehead, who is named upon the principal monument in the compartment), their children, three Williams and Agnes, who died in infancy ; Janet, died 9th September, 1806, aged 29, and Clementina, died

15th April 1812, aged 26; also, the Deacon's son-in-law, Edward Watson, the name of whose wife, Mary Gibson, also appears upon the principal memorial.

A headstone near the Key monument east of the Church was inadvertently left unnoticed in its proper place: It is in memory of James Mouncey, died 1st February 1839, aged 57; Isabella Thomson, his spouse; their children, John, died in Bombay, aged 22; Elizabeth, died at Crewe, aged 33; Helen, aged 36, and Janet, aged 45.

The table monument to Bailie Paterson's son, which is referred to on page 5, as having been "subjected to ignominious treatment," has, in accordance with the suggestion there made, been re-edified, and its inscription been brought to view.

A neat headstone has been just set up near the Martyrs' Pyramid devoted to Archibald Dickson, died at Georgetown 1st June 1875, aged 48; Helen Kennedy, his wife, and their infant children Archibald and Mary.

The following are among the new names inscribed on family stones since our notices of the latter were put in type: Robert M'Adam, an exceedingly well-informed and ingenious watchmaker, died at Brighton (where he had gone in a vain quest for health), 14th July 1875, aged 64; William Ross, an aged freeman of the Tailors' Incorporation, died 19th March 1876, aged 76; John Richardson, another veteran craftsman, who carried on business as a clogmaker, died 10th April 1876, aged 74; and James Perry, saddler, an intelligent man, descended from a good old Cameronian stock, and himself a devoted Reformed Presbyterian, died 18th June 1876, aged 61.

When describing the Sharpe memorial we were unable to throw any reliable light upon the name of the sculptor by whom it was fashioned; but we have since seen reasons for believing that it must have been the handiwork of the artist who executed the marble monument to Duke James of Queensberry and his Duchess, in 1711, and which is placed in the parish church at Durrisdeer. The weeping cherub figures of the one structure are reproduced in the other, and in many of their details they are nearly, if not quite, the same. This piece of information was supplied to us by Mr Flint ; and if the general supposition be correct that the Durrisdeer monument is from the chisel of Roubilliac, we may safely conclude that the Hoddam monument in St. Michael's is the workmanship of the same distinguished artist.

CONCLUDING REMARKS.

We now close our fragmentary record of a Cemetery wherein lies the dust of at least eighty thousand human beings, that were "fearfully and wonderfully framed" whilst denizens of the earth above, and each of whom still possesses a separate entity, though their organisms have been broken up, or are rapidly mouldering away, beneath the stones we have passed under notice, or the turf over which we have been travelling. "'Dust thou art, to dust returnest,' was not spoken of the soul ;" and even for the body, which has been resolved into dust, there is a time of returning and of revival yet in store. Viewed as a place in which insensate friends have been hid from sight, beyond "the precincts of the cheerful day," the churchyard possesses an interest that is alike mournful and deep ; but it loses much of its gloom, and its interest is immensely increased, when we can think of it as a bed in which the weak and the weary find a rest that is not to last for ever, and is but the sleep of a long-protracted night that will terminate on the resurrection day. We have the warrant of Holy Writ for looking upon the grave as a haven of rest ; and it is represented in Scripture by a still more pleasing figure,—that of a garden where the bodies of the dead become freed from corrupting dross, and whence in due time they will grow up, thoroughly purified, and dowered with the heritage of immortality.

> "See Truth, Love, and Mercy in triumph descending,
> And Nature all glowing in Eden's first bloom ;
> On the cold cheek of Death smiles and roses are blending,
> And Beauty, immortal, awakes from the tomb."

The sentiment of these fine lines is not a matter of mere poetic fancy, but is the product of heavenly inspiration, as given expression to by Paul: "But," asks the apostle, "how are the dead raised up, and with what body do they come?" Commenting upon this passage, Dr. Islay Burns has the following pertinent observations, which will, we hope, not be deemed out of place in the present volume:

"The question will still recur," he says, "not on the suggestion only of a wistful curiosity, but under the pressure of those doubts which the physical difficulties of the case now, as in the apostle's days, awaken, How shall it be possible even for Omnipotence itself to gather together again from the sepulchres of all the ages the dust of each of His saints, so long since dissolved, dispersed, blown about the world, mixed up with other organisms, taken up into the very blood and flesh of other animals and other men in the long succession of ages? How shall each reclaim his own, when the same substance, the same identical particles, have belonged successively to many? Can Omnipotence itself overcome the natural impossibilities of the same atom being in two places and forming a part of two distinct material organisms at once? Surely, if the immortal spirits of men are again to be invested with a material form, it cannot be the same identical body which they laid aside at death, and which they left behind them in the grave.

The objection is specious, but not solid. It is founded altogether, not on the difficulties of the doctrine itself, but on an erroneous and superficial understanding of the doctrine. The identity of animal organisms is an identity, not of particles, but of form and structure and continuous sentient life. Even during our present state of existence, while the organic identity of our bodies remains, their material substance is incessantly changing; so that in the course of a very few years every single atom of their present framework shall have passed away and given place to others. Thus, in this sense, the body of the child is different from the body of the boy, and the body of the boy from that of the man, and the substance we take from our mother's womb is not the same, but wholly other than that which we shall lay in the tomb. It is not in this, then, that our true identity consists;

seeing that, amid all the incessant change that in this respect takes place, that identity remains all the while unaffected. There is no individuality in atoms; each one, so far as we know, is like another, and can contribute nothing, therefore, to the distinctive peculiarity or differentia of the bodies which they compose. I am what I am, not because I am composed of such and such particles, but because out of such particles I have been moulded by the plastic hand of God into that distinctive form and type of organic substance which belongs to me as an individual, and which is mine and not another's. Even if, by a miracle, every atom of my bodily substance were in an instant eliminated and substituted by others, I would still remain, as to everything which constitutes my true identity, alike in body as in soul, totally unchanged.

In this sense, then,—that is to say, in the sense, not of an atomic, but of an organic and vital identity,—the body of our resurrection shall be the same with the body of our burial. As the body of our birth is the same with the body of our death, so shall be the body of our death with the body of our immortality. It will be changed and yet the same—changed in its conditions, properties, powers; the same in individual form and type, in its characteristic style and physiognomy, in the proportion of its parts, and the special adaptation to the uses of that one particular soul to which it inalieniably belongs,—so truly the same, that both we ourselves shall be sure of it, and all who knew us before in the flesh shall recognise and know us again. It will be the same though raised now to the full predestined perfection of its nature, conformed to its true ideal, even as its type was cast in the eternal thought of God from the first—bright, beautiful, glorious—each according to its own individual style and fashion of brightness, beauty, glory, as every true work of God is and must be.

It was thus that the Apostle in his own grand way solved the difficulty: 'Thou fool, that which thou sowest is not quickened, except it die: and that which thou sowest, thou sowest not that body that shall be, but bare grain, it may chance of wheat, or of some other grain : but God giveth it a body as it hath pleased Him, and to every seed his own body. . . . . So also is the resurrection of the dead. It is sown in corruption ; it is raised in incorruption : it is sown in dishonour ; it is raised in glory : it is sown in weakness ; it is raised in power : it is sown a natural body ; it is raised a spiritual body. . . . . So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory.' (1 Cor. xv. 36–54.)"

These cemetery "Memorials," then, of which we have been giving an imperfect sketch, are but as the little wooden tickets that the gardener employs to mark the spots where his various seeds lie embedded, waiting for the voice of Spring to call them forth in the form of plants or flowers. We borrow, in closing, one of Longfellow's poems, in which the idea enunciated by Paul is beautifully embodied :

"I like that ancient Saxon phrase which calls
The burial-ground God's Acre ! It is just ;
It consecrates each grave within its walls,
And breathes a benison o'er the sleeping dust.

God's Acre ! Yes, that blessed name imparts
Comfort to those who in the grave have sown
The seed. that they have garnered in their hearts
Their bread of life ; alas ! no more their own.

Into its furrows shall we all be cast
In the sure faith that we shall rise again
At the great harvest, when the archangel's blast,
Shall winnow, like a fan, the chaff and grain.

Then shall the good stand in immortal bloom
In the fair gardens of that second birth ;
And each bright blossom mingle its perfume
With that of flowers which never bloomed on earth.

With thy rough ploughshare, Death, turn up the sod,
And spread the furrow for the seed we sow.
This is the field and acre of our God ;
This is the place where human harvests grow !"

APPENDIX.

REGULATIONS

FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCHYARD.

A meeting of Joint Committees of the Magistrates, Heritors, and Kirk-Session of Dumfries, was held on the 5th May 1875, with the view of framing regulations for the future management of St. Michael's Churchyard ; this step having been deemed requisite on account of conflicting opinions having been entertained, by the bodies concerned, on the subject. There were present—Provost Smith for the Magistrates (in the chair) ; Messrs. Symons and Anderson for the Landward Heritors, Mr. Corrie for the Kirk-Session, and the Rev. Mr. Paton, Convener. The minute of the proceedings is as follows :

"The Heritors' Clerk produced excerpts from minutes of Kirk-Session, dated 25th December 1860, and of Town Council, dated 4th January and 1st February 1861, relative to the appointment of John Tait, the present Sexton, from which it appeared that he held the office during pleasure, and subject to such rules and conditions as might be presented to him from time to time, and specially under the condition that for certain stated hours on week-days the Churchyard should be kept open free.

The Clerk also produced an excerpt from Colonel Burns's conveyance to the Education Society, dated 18th June 1858, which imposed upon the Society the burden of keeping the Burns's Mausoleum in repair.

Mr. Mitchell,* Secretary for the Burns's Club, appeared and stated the footing on which the Sexton had charge of Burns's Mausoleum—videlicet, that from the gratuities he received from visitors for showing the Mausoleum he paid the club £2 annually for the cost of keeping it in repair.

After consideration the meeting resolved to recommend the different bodies interested to agree to the following regulations for the future management of the Graveyard, viz. :

1. The Churchyard gate shall be open on week-days from eleven till three o'clock.

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* Mr. Donald Mitchell, the late able and accomplished editor and proprietor of the *Dumfries Courier*, whose lamented death took place at his residence, Douglas Bank, Dumfries, 3d October 1876.

2. The gate shall be kept locked at all other times.

3. The Sexton shall be bound to unlock the gate at any other time during the day free of charge on the request of persons interested in the Graveyard.

4. The Churchyard gate shall be open on Sundays from ten o'clock till sunset.

5. During the hours of Divine Service, the Sexton being engaged in Church, a policeman shall be in attendance to preserve order.

6. The Provost, Minister, and Heritors' Clerk for the time being to have the general supervision of the Churchyard, with power to see that the walks and the ground generally are kept in order. As by the terms of Colonel Burns's conveyance to the Education Society, the Society are bound to maintain in good repair the Mausoleum erected in memory of the Poet, the Burns's Club are recommended to cancel the arrangement by which they receive from the Sexton £2 annually to meet the cost of such repair, to approve of a uniform charge by the Sexton, for opening the gate of the Mausoleum, of threepence for each person, and to forbid the Mausoleum being opened on Sundays—an announcement to this effect to be put up at the entrance to the Mausoleum."

The Churchyard Managers constituted as above met on 14th July, 1876. Present—Provost Smith, Rev. Mr. Paton, and Mr. M'Gowan, when the Provost stated "that certain tradesmen had complained to him that they could not get access to the Churchyard after three o'clock when the gate was locked. The Sexton explained that he was always ready to open the gate after that hour, in terms of the regulations whenever requested."

At page 110 of the text we gave the resolutions come to by the Burns's Club on receipt of the recommendations made by the Magistrates, Heritors, and Kirk-Session regarding the Mausoleum.

ERRATA.

On page 315, for *genus* read GENIUS; on page 318, for *Buie* read BRUCE.

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